

Christian Rites

In a ceremony of prayer, song and religious rites...

The main altar of the church was the place where the priest read from the Bible, and the choir sang from their respective positions.

The service was held in the presence of a large number of Christians...



The main issues will be a deadlock over exchange of prisoners of war, the suspended Russian troop withdrawal and formation of a coalition government to rule until free elections are held, the spokesman told Iran-Tass news agency.

Lebed met with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin for an hour to discuss Chechnya,

It host in Shiraz
Travel Agency

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Australia's PM, John Howard, Met Indonesian President Suharto, Sept. 16. Howard is on a 2-Day Official Visit to Jakarta



IRAN NEWS

KDP Peshmergas Patrol the Outskirts of Arbil. KDP Prevented Journalists and Iraqi Officials from Entering the City Sept. 15



VOL. II. No. 554 TEHRAN Price 200 Rials

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U.S. Follows Law of Jungle, Leader

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Leader of Islamic Iran, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, yesterday said the armed forces are the vigilant arm of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

He told the commanders and officials of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC), that their most important task is to protect the country against enemy plots, uphold the supremacy of the Almighty God and help the country attain its righteous and just goals.

The Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces said the IRGC is composed of faithful and sincere young men, adding: "You embody the bravery and sacrifice which represent the Sacred Defense era, and carry the hallowed memories of that era in your hearts and minds, or on your bodies."

Ayatollah Khamenei stated that militarism is the manifestation of power, and any endeavor to in-

crease material power runs counter to Islamic logic and teachings.

The Leader said that according to Islamic teachings, seeking power is unacceptable and is regarded as an act which leads to man's fall from the peak of humanity.

He quoted from a sermon of Imam Ali (A.S.), the first imam of the infallible household of Prophet Mohammad (S), who said that administration of a state is as worthless to him as a shoe lace unless it served to right a wrong and put an end to injustice.

Analyzing the theory of power from an Islamic point of view, the Leader said power in Islam is not a tool to be used for achieving hegemony, it is, rather, a means to be used against those seeking power. Ayatollah Khamenei said the armed forces of the Islamic

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MOSTAR, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA: An APC of the IFOR forces takes a position at the former confrontation line between Muslims and Croats in Mostar Sept. 15 as a security measure. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) said Sept. 15 that there were not enough ballot papers here for refugees during Bosnia's first post-war elections yesterday and the electoral commission is due to meet to find a solution for the incident. (AFP Photo)

Top Three Nationalists Ahead for Presidency

SARAJEVO (AFP) - The candidates of the three main Bosnian nationalist parties - Muslim, Croat and Serb - were well in the lead in the race for Bosnia's three-member joint presidency, early results showed.

President Alija Izetbegovic, of the Muslim Party for Democratic Action, had 75.96 percent of the vote against his chief rival for the seat reserved for a Muslim after results from four municipalities had been counted, OSCE officials

said. At 4:15 p.m. (14:15 GMT) the top Croat nationalist Kresimir Zubak, candidate for the Croatia Democratic Union, had moved into the lead with 51.2 percent of 4,470 votes counted for the Croat seat on the presidency, against 44.8 percent for a more moderate Croat, Ivo Komsic. OSCE officials said.

And in the one municipality in the Serb-run half of Bosnia so far counted, Momcilo Krajisnik,

leading candidate for the extreme Serb nationalist SDS, took 91.89 percent of the votes cast, the results showed.

The three nationalist candidates had been widely predicted before the elections as likely to take the lion's share of the votes in the race for the presidency.

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Lebed Prepares New Mission as Fighting Breaks Chechen Cease-fire

MOSCOW, RUSSIA (AFP) - Top Russian negotiator Alexander Lebed prepared for a new mission to Chechnya yesterday in the wake of the first major cease-fire violation in Grozny and problems in implementing a crucial political accord.

Lebed, who brokered the peace accord last month, is due to fly to Chechnya today to meet the commander of Russian troops, General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, and Chechen Chief of Staff Aslan Maskhadov, a Lebed spokesman said.

The main issues will be a deadlock over exchange of prisoners of war, the suspended Russian troop withdrawal and formation of a coalition government to rule until free elections are held, the spokesman told Iran-Tass news agency.

Lebed met with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin for an hour to discuss Chechnya,

Interfax news agency said.

Chernomyrdin was later to also meet with Doku Zavgayev, head of the pro-Moscow government, which ruled in areas held by Russian troops until a major separatist offensive this August, Iran-Tass said.

Lebed's latest visit comes against a background of increasing tension in the tiny republic and a bitter reaction in Moscow to the peace process, seen by nationalists and hardliners as a sell-out to the Chechen independence rebellion.

Reports from Grozny late Sunday said that a fierce attack, involving small arms, mortars and rocket launchers, was made against Russian positions near a big military base at the Severny Airport in northern Grozny.

It was the first serious violation of the cease-fire signed August 22, but it was unclear who was responsible.

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PERVOMAYSKAYA, CHECHNYA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION: Chechen Muslims pray for those killed in the war as a small boy plays in the village of Pervomayskaya, Sept. 13. (AFP Photo)

President Blasts U.S. Sabotage Attempts on African Tour

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said here yesterday that U.S. attempts to sabotage his six-nation African tour got nowhere because of the interest shown by African nations in the Islamic Revolution.

Rafsanjani said his African tour was successful and African governments and nations were glad to have an alternative to rid them of the monopoly of Western governments.

"This explains why the Americans did not want to see us there," he said in an interview with IRNA.

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Vaezi Due in Moscow

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - Irano-Russian talks start today in Moscow to exchange views on the deteriorating situation in Iraq, an informed source said yesterday.

The source talking to IRAN NEWS yesterday said Deputy Foreign Minister Mahmoud Vaezi will fly to Moscow for talks with Russian officials including Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov.

Iran and Russia along with several other countries in the region and Europe voiced concern over the deteriorating security situation in the North as well as other parts of Iraq.

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Perry Concludes Visit, Barzani to Resolve Kurdish Issue with Baghdad

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK

TEHRAN - While around 60,000 Kurdish refugees were sheltered by Iran in five camps, a Kurdish leader said the status of Iraqi Kurdistan should be resolved through negotiations with Baghdad.

In a related development, U.S. Secretary of States William Perry yesterday returned home with a message for his boss, President Clinton, that the Americans can no longer play the role of a policeman in the region. Iran yesterday announced the refugees are sheltered in camps along the border in the provinces of Kurdistan, West Azarbaijan and Kermanshah.

A report from Ankara said, Defense Secretary Perry, realizing the adamant attitude of the Turkish officials made no request for the use of Incirlik Airbase in southern Turkey as a staging ground for possible U.S. attacks against Iraq.

NEWS ANALYSIS

Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller said, "There has been no U.S. demand from Turkey, and there is no change in Turkish policies (on Iraq)."

Ciller spoke to reporters after a meeting with Perry who was on a tour of the region.

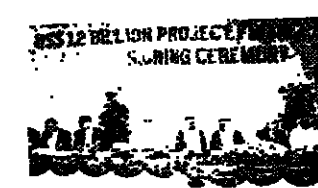
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In an Interview with Enteshari, the outstanding Director General in the Country:

Performance of Isfahan Labor and Social Affairs Department Was Outlined

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IRAN NEWS

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EDITORIAL

Perry Back with a Loud Message

President Bill Clinton, reeling from caustic criticism at home and furious response from his Western allies over U.S. policy on the Persian Gulf, sent his Defense Secretary William Perry to the region in order to receive a favorable comeback from his country's satellite states. But perhaps President Clinton did not know that more setbacks and defeats were in store for his political career. Kuwait, which voiced support for U.S. missile raids on Iraq early this month, refused to allow more American troops when Perry approached the tiny neighbor of Iraq. However, the latest report said that Kuwait finally bowed before Perry's demands.

Such a decision on the part of the Kuwaiti government is against the wishes of the people of that country. In its morning program, European Press Review, BBC television yesterday showed a front-page picture showing Kuwaitis protesting against the American plan for deploying more forces in their country.

In Saudi Arabia, the American secretary of defense again received a negative response. Only Bahrain, facing internal strife, on Sunday allowed the U.S. to deploy 23 F-16 warplanes in the island country.

In Turkey, Perry met with President Suleyman Demirel, Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller and senior armed forces officials. But they did not allow U.S. to use Turkish land and air facilities for further U.S. military adventurism.

At home, Republican leaders such as the House Speaker Newt Gingrich and presidential candidate Bob Dole were questioning Clinton's rationale for such actions. Gingrich, in an interview with NBC television, said "The Republicans have no idea what president (Clinton) is trying to accomplish."

Former National Security adviser and Democrat, Zbigniew Brzezinski, in an interview with CNN yesterday took Clinton to task and strongly criticized the U.S. involvement in Northern Iraq and Washington's move to push Iran into isolation.

It is now clear that President Clinton is doing all he can to woo the voters for the November election. To gain popularity, he is ready to embark on any irrational policy.

Analysts now have every reason to believe that the Clinton administration's moves related to the Middle East are meant to enhance his domestic political agenda and that he could face an unexpected setback if he continues to commit similar immature and rash acts.

A loud and clear message for President Clinton is being carried by Perry from the Middle East after his recent visit. The message says that the U.S. is not acceptable as a policeman in this region or elsewhere in the world.

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Speaker Lauds Preservation of Sacred Defense Values

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - Preservation of the values of the eight years of the Sacred Defense is a necessity, said Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri here yesterday.

The Speaker was addressing the members of the headquarters for commemoration of the Sacred Defense Week.

Recalling the memory of the late Imam Khomeini (A.S.) and the martyrs of the imposed war, Nateq-Nouri said if Imam Hussein's epic of Ashura was not repeatedly rehearsed and retold many of the events of the history of Islam would have been forgotten.

"Without any exaggeration the Islamic Revolution is continuing the same Ashura Movement of Imam Hussein (A.S.)," said the Speaker.

The head of the legislative body said our movement began with the start of Ashura and was triumphed with the victory of Ashura.

He said so long as the nation followed the pure teaching of Mohammadan Islam which calls for resistance and persistence of its values, "the enemy will not cease to threaten us or apply pressure on us."

"For this reason it is necessary that our people should always follow a spirit of sacrifice and forbearance and be ready to defend



TEHRAN - Majlis Speaker yesterday received members of the Headquarters for Commemoration of the Sacred Defense.

PHOTO BY HAMAN

themselves," the Speaker added.

Mehdi Chamran, head of the Foundation for Preservation of the Values of the Sacred Defense presented a report of the programs of his foundation during the Sacred Defense Week.

Expounding Late Imam's Views

In another development, Nateq-Nouri said here Sunday that the views of the late Imam Khomeini on various issues

should be explained.

He was speaking to the fourth seminar on studying the views of the late Imam Khomeini. In the field of defense, Nateq-Nouri said, "Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Khamenei has repeatedly recommended the publishing and explaining of the views of the late Imam on various fields."

He elaborated on the political and cultural defense from Imam

Khomeini's point of view, saying that different kinds of offensives require varied defensive measures, adding that "thanks to the grace of the Almighty, we have dealt with all kinds of offensives successfully."

"Return to Islam should form our strategy and any retreat from the principles of the Islamic Revolution would pose an irreparable loss and a historical mistake," the Majlis Speaker said.

Iran, Cuba Call for International Stand Against American Extra-Territorial Policies



LARIJANI

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK
TEHRAN - The deputy chairman of the Iranian Majlis Foreign Policy Commission Mohammad-Javad Larijani met the Cuban National Assembly President Larcus Cusaca in Beijing Sunday.

He called for the adoption of a common stand at international forums against Washington's extra-territorial policies, IRNA reported.

Larijani and Cusaca are here to attend the 96th session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Cusaca said that the U.S. by trying to impose its municipal laws against other countries is playing a dangerous game.

In reference to the Helms-Burton Law against Cuba and the d'Amato Law against Iran, he stated that such moves are vivid examples of U.S. lawlessness on international scenes and if international forums do not prevent such policies, the results would be unpleasant.

Larijani said that such U.S. moves are a violation of the principles of peaceful co-existence,

peaceful efforts of world countries and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

The 96th session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union was due to start yesterday in Beijing with the participation of over 400 deputies from 110 countries around the world.

Iran's proposal against the d'Amato Law and the U.S. trade sanctions are among the eight points to be discussed at the session.

Cooperation Among Parliaments of Asia, Pacific Urged

In another development, Larijani stressed on joint cooperation of parliamentary groups of Asia and the Pacific to support political, cultural, and social stands of the region.

Addressing the regional meeting which was held on the sidelines of the IPU meeting yesterday, Larijani outlined Iran's stands and put forward his proposals to the meeting.

He also called for further coordination among the regional parliamentary groups, IRNA reported.

Iraqi Refugees Appreciate Islamic Iran's Humanitarian Help

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK
TEHRAN - Iraqi Kurdish refugees in the border regions of Kermanshah Province, Sunday expressed appreciation of Iran's humanitarian aid.

A number of the refugees in Tileh-Kuh border region of Sar-e Pol-e Zehab said that Iran supported the Iraqi Kurdish refugees in the most difficult situations.

A refugee who introduced himself as "Khale," from Kelar, said that scores of people in north-eastern Iraq owe their lives to Iran because, had the Islamic Republic not sheltered them, they would have been massacred by Baghdad's Baathist regime.

He said that Western countries led by the U.S. have always been talking about human rights, but have practically extended no help to Iraq's oppressed people.

The Iraqi Kurdish refugee commented that the mass killings of people in Northern Iraq were carried out by the joint forces of the Iraqi army and the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) with

U.S. support.

He argued that the American reconnaissance planes had full information of the military movements by Iraq's army, "then why didn't they prevent their assault?"

Another refugee named Abu-Bakr, said that whenever the U.S. feels that Kurdish groups are poised to make peace with Iran's help, it doesn't hesitate to plot and create tension in the region.

Thanking Iran for its humanitarian aid, the refugee appealed for international assistance for the displaced Iraqi Kurds.

Mohammad, an elderly refugee, said, that KDP and its chief rival the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) have been trying to eliminate one another since the formation of the self-declared government of Kurdistan.

A crisis like this brings enemies together, and the Iraqi troops, after receiving the green light from the U.S., joined hands with the KDP and embarked on a spree of murder and massacre in Northern Iraq, he deplored.

Iran, Bulgaria Stress Restoration of Calm, Stability in Balkans, Middle East

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK
TEHRAN - Vice President Hassan Habibi met Bulgarian Deputy Foreign Minister Konstantin Glovnokev here Sunday. They underlined the need for further bilateral cooperation and collaboration for the restoration of stability to the Balkans and Middle East.

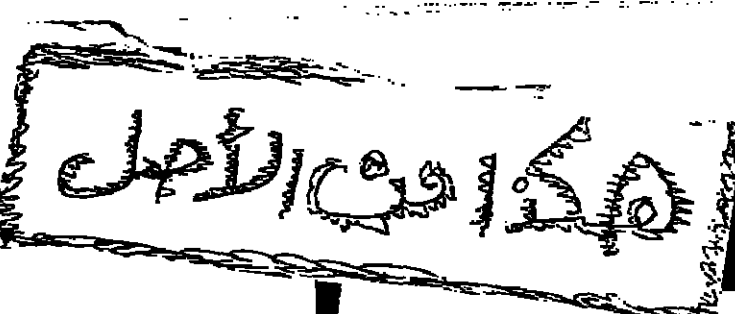
Glovnokev conveyed the Bulgarian premier's warm greetings to Habibi and said that Bulgaria

was for all-out expansion of its ties with Tehran within the framework of Tehran-Sofia joint economic commission session.

He underlined that Sofia confirmed Iran's policy which is based on establishment of regional peace and stability, defending independence and territorial integrity of countries and preventing regional influence of foreign powers.

Habibi expressed satisfaction with the growing economic, trade, political and cultural ties between Iran and Bulgaria and underlined the need for talks and exchange of views by the two countries' officials.

He hoped that economic cooperation between Iran and Bulgaria would further expand in light of improving bilateral banking ties, IRNA reported.



IRAN

DOMESTIC NEWS

GUEST IN TOWN

Bangladesh Wants an AIDS-Free World

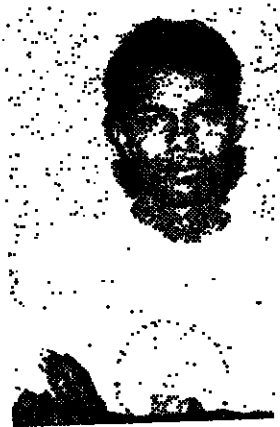
Experts believe that by the turn of the century, AIDS could be the leading cause of death in most countries, and particularly in the Third World.

A young, campaigning Bangladeshi, Tanzir Mohammed Shahin, arrived here on a bicycle and said "Bangladesh wants an AIDS free world and this is our slogan." He traveled from his country with his friend, Mohammed Abu Faisal Khan.

Shahin, 23, and Khan, 27, were in the offices of IRAN NEWS Saturday, and told us: "We were alarmed by the stories occasionally aired by print and broadcast media on human sufferings from the deadly disease, AIDS."



KHAN



SHAHIN

"In a modest gesture, we decided to draw everyone's attention to the problem with a four-month cycle tour," Shahin said. "Fifteen years into the AIDS epidemic, fear, bigotry and ignorance still abound," Khan said.

Shahin said that the situation has deteriorated to the extent that "in some countries in Africa, AIDS had made coffin-making a big business." AIDS is spread most often through sexual contact and contaminated syringes used by drug abusers.

Shahin and Khan had the blessings of their country's President Abdur Rahman Biswas, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, their colleges and a lot of friends.

They kicked off their tour on Aug. 14 in Dhaka and have so far visited India's Calcutta and Amritsar, Pakistan's Lahore and Quetta, and Iran's Zahedan and Tehran.

They plan to visit Turkey, Greece, Italy, Austria, Germany, Poland, Romania and Bulgaria.

Both the cyclists appreciated Iranian hospitality.

"We don't speak Farsi, but the people who gathered to see us on our way have tried to show their appreciation of our gesture for the cause of humanity," Shahin said.



Photo by Abdi

Iraqi Refugees Need International Aid

IRAN NEWS NATIONAL DESK
TEHRAN - Kurdish refugees will begin returning to Iraq from Iran as soon as conditions are safe, a senior government official said here yesterday.

Ahmad Hosseini, director general of the Department of Aliens and Foreign Refugees, told the press that some "60,000 refugees have been officially accepted into Iranian territory and have been settled in Kermanshah, Kurdistan and West Azarbaijan provinces."

He said the camps allocated to the refugees are not hygienic, there being no drinking or bathing water available due to water shortages in these regions. "Iran has settled these refugees only on an emergency and temporary basis, so if their stay has to be prolonged

we will have to build better facilities in these camps," Hosseini said.

Iran has accepted the 60,000 refugees, contrary to previous statements, because the lives of Kurdish refugees were in danger, he said. But the geographic condition of the western territories is not suitable for even the temporary settlement of refugees, he added, and there are 250 injured and aged people whose condition is critical and who have had to be hospitalized.

Hosseini said that the Bashmaq Province in Kurdistan was attacked by Barezani and Iraqi forces, threatening the lives of civilians, and Iran gave them shelter.

Hosseini, who is also deputy minister of the interior, said that in a letter to the U.N. High Commissioner of Refugees, Minister of Interior Ali Mohammad Besharati "has expressed his regret at the indifference of international organizations over the fate of Iraqi refugees and has sought international assistance to help solve their problems."

He said Iran had accepted the Iraqi refugees at the request of the U.N., but that the U.N. must help Iran help the refugees.

"Before this influx of new refugees, Iran had spent more than 20 billion rials aiding refugees, an amount which has been reported to the United Nations for reimbursement," the deputy minister added.

"The first shipment of relief arrived at Kermanshah from the organization of Doctors Without Frontiers, based in Belgium," Hosseini said. "UNICEF has also sent some blankets and first-aid to save the children, and four German organizations are preparing to travel to Kermanshah."

"Several other charity organizations have declared their readiness to help but no relief has arrived yet," Hosseini noted.

He stated that under no circumstances will refugees be allowed to travel to Iranian villages or towns except in the case of injured people needing treatment.

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LET'S MEMORIZE THE QURAN

SURA 62, FRIDAY (AL-JUM'U'A)

In the Name of God

The Beneficent, the Merciful

5. Those unto whom the Torah was consigned.

And yet they bore it not, resemble.

A donkey laden with some books.

Yet worse is the example of the people.

Who Allah's revelations have denied:

For Allah does not guide.

The off-transgressing folks.

The 30th part of the Holy Quran is obtainable in exquisite book-form

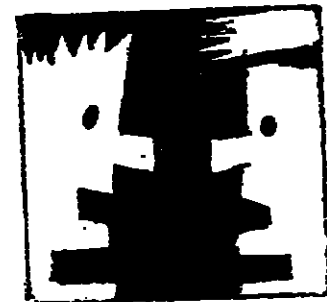
from: RASA Publication Tel. 883 4844-5

(F.N.)

PRAYER TIMES

Noon (Zohr)	12:59
Evening (Maghreb)	19:28
Tomorrow's Dawn (Fajr)	05:15
Tomorrow's Sunrise	06:49

TÊTE-A-TÊTE



Leading the World?!

"Master, do you sometimes keep certain on-going developments from me? I mean, as an example, what's this story about Mr. Clinton's top adviser, Dick Morris, who sort of maintained a year-long, pleasing relationship with a filthy, loud-mouthed call-girl? It's been the talk of the town in Europe and America together with some references to Mr. Clinton's own not-terribly-clean, past record in the same area of virile activity?"

"Well, perhaps I'm not very interested in the private lives of public figures, but now that you've drawn my attention to them, young man, I may confess that *we do live in a most odd world*: the very people who so easily fall prey to a carnal vanity, call themselves 'the leaders of humanity'; isn't it disgustingly interesting?"

ABU SINA

Boroujerdi, Dostam Agree Negotiations Will Save Afghanistan

IRAN NEWS POLITICAL DESK
TEHRAN - Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Pacific Affairs, Alaeddin Boroujerdi, arrived in the northern Afghan city of Mazar-i-Sharif yesterday and exchanged views on the latest political developments in Afghanistan with National Islamic Movement Leader General Abdur Rashid Dostam.

In the meeting, Boroujerdi expressed Iran's concern over the continuation of the factional conflict in Afghanistan, and said that those who are fanning the fire of fratricide are endangering regional peace and security.

He said that experience proves that warmongering will not help Afghanistan resolve existing problems but will also further complicate the present situation.

Earthquake Jolts Qaemiyeh, Mamasani

SHIRAZ, FARS PROVINCE (IRNA) - An earthquake measuring 3.8 degrees on the open-ended Richter scale jolted the cities of Mamasani and Qaemiyeh near Kazeroun in southern Fars Province Saturday night.

The provincial seismology

IRNA reported.

Underlining the need for negotiations between the various Afghan political groups, he said Iran supports any peace accord reached at the negotiating table.

Boroujerdi pointed out that Iran will spare no efforts in this regard.

Dostam thanked Iran's relentless efforts and said that Afghanistan needs peace and "We will support any effort for peace."

He agreed with Boroujerdi that war will further complicate the situation and the only solution to the Afghan crisis is to sit at the negotiating table.

Dostam said that his movement was for a peaceful solution, and the opening of the Salang Hassan-Kabul Highway proved that his party is interested in peace.

The quake has reportedly left no loss of life or damage.

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Photo by Abdi

Refugees
Islamic Iran's
arian Help

Restoration of
ans, Middle Ea

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Habibi Says Oil Industry Expansion Vital for Iran

IRAN NEWS ECONOMIC DESK

TEHRAN - The First Vice President yesterday announced that Iran must consolidate and expand its oil industry and improve the manufacture of oil by-products to eliminate reliance on oil revenue.

Hassan Habibi was addressing the inauguration ceremony of the Seventh Oil, Gas and Petrochemical Seminar and the First Festival of Oil, Gas and Petrochemicals.

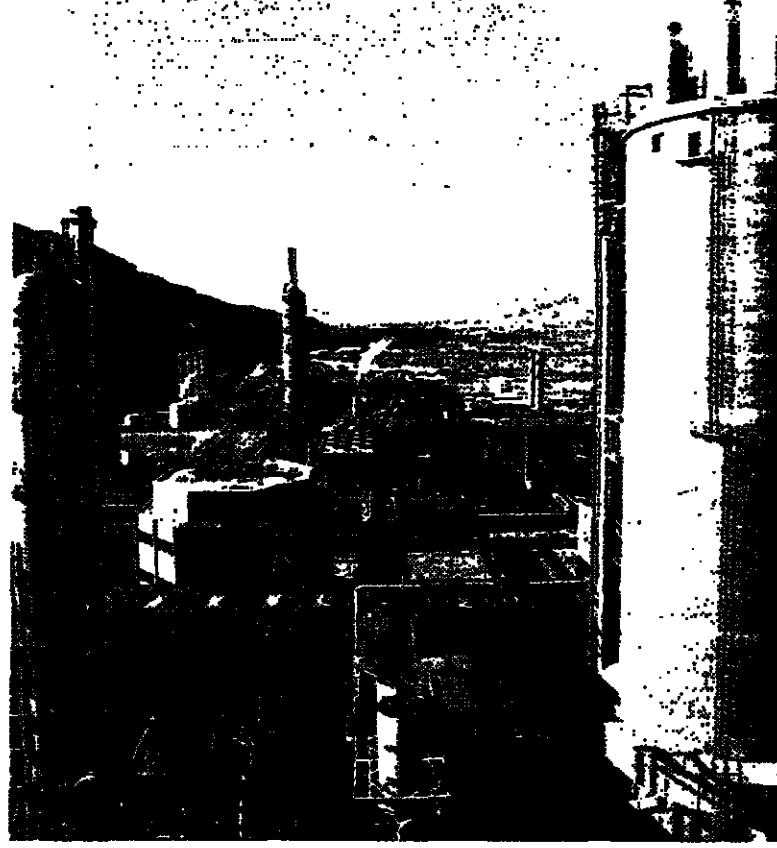
He said the nation must increase the value added of its oil by-products to gain a safe foothold in international markets.

"We have no other alternative but to become industrialized if we intend to be independent and enjoy a developed economy," Habibi stated.

However, he said, to be industrialized we must have a proper strategy and the means to execute it. Habibi called for the launch of a comprehensive national research program, a plan which is possible because of Iran's industrial growth.

"Our economists must put together a 25-year comprehensive program to the year 2021, in order to make optimum use of the nation's resources and potentials," Habibi said.

Minister of Petroleum Qolamreza Aqazadeh also spoke at the opening and said Iran is currently the second largest producer of gas and the fourth largest producer of



oil in the world.

He said that besides rebuilding and expanding present facilities, the Petroleum Ministry has devised vast programs to increase production and right now is giving technical services to other nations as well.

"We feel research is very significant and we intend to play a pivotal role in the growth of Iran's

economy by correctly utilizing oil technology and know-how," the minister said, adding that the correct use of technology is much more important than accessing foreign capital.

Some 51 papers have been submitted to the seminar which has attracted oil industry specialists, university students and professors. It will close Thursday.

Velayati Terms Outcome of ECO Session "Big Success"

TEHRAN (IRNA) - Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati here yesterday termed the outcome of the extraordinary session of foreign ministers of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) as a big stride towards emergence of an independent organization.

Velayati, back from the Turkish port city of Izmir where the ECO session was held, told IRNA that the foreign ministers of the ten member states endorsed changes to be carried out for two years from the beginning of the year 1997.

He said that over the past years various commissions and institutes of ECO had been pursuing activities related to regional cooperation in such fields as aviation, banking and insurance, but the decisions taken at Izmir stipulate that the said organizations should function with greater authority and power under the ECO at its headquarters.

After two years ECO would be transformed into a fully independent organization like other world organizations and that Tehran will be the site of its permanent headquarters, he added.

ECO, founded by Iran, Turkey and Pakistan, was later expanded when Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Afghanistan joined it.

The Iranian foreign minister

referred to Erbakan's visit to Iran last month and the new developments in the two countries' economic relations and pointed out that Iran-Turkey trade exchanges would total at least \$2.5 billion annually in light of the cooperation accords reached between Tehran and Ankara.

He added that the executive work for the gas pipeline project for supply of Iranian gas to Turkey would start during the forthcoming visit to Ankara of Iranian oil Minister Gholamreza Aqazadeh.

Referring to American meddling in the internal affairs of Iraq, Velayati said that during talks with senior Turkish officials, he filed Iran's objection to interference by any other country in Iraq, and stressed that Iraqi problems should be resolved by the Iraqi people themselves.

"Iraqi Kurds should solve their problems at the negotiating table," he said, adding that the current infighting among the Iraqi

Kurds should not serve as a pretext for the presence of hegemonist powers in the region.

Answering a question on Iran-Turkey border issues, Velayati said that Turkish concerns about security problems in its southeast parts are understandable and that Turkish security problems would be resolved through a realistic view and cooperation by other regional states.

"During talks with Turkish officials it was decided that Turkish security problems should be reviewed and resolved through cooperation and mutual understanding and without being influenced by the insinuations of the enemies," he added.

The Iranian foreign minister made it clear that the false reports and baseless accusations will not help Turkey resolve its security problems and that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always proved that it is keen to build trust and friendship with its neighbors.

New Oil, Gas Discoveries in Iran

NICOSIA, CYPRUS (AFP) - A top Iranian oil official said in an interview published yesterday that U.S. economic sanctions caused some problems for Iran but not enough to hinder the development of its energy sector.

Sayed Mehdi Hosseini, a senior executive at the National Iranian Oil Company (NIOC), also disclosed that explorations in the past year have yielded 204 million barrels of crude oil and 283 billion cubic meters (10 trillion cubic feet) of natural gas.

Hosseini, director of the NIOC's Exploration Department, spoke in an interview in Tehran with the authoritative weekly oil newsletter, Middle East Economic Survey.

He said the new oil and gas discoveries were "in line with the targets" of Iran's Second Five Year Development Plan launched in 1995.

Iran, the official said, had envisaged the discovery of 1.2 billion barrels of oil and between 708 billion and 1.416 trillion cubic meters (25 trillion and 50 trillion cubic feet) of gas by the year

2000.

Asked about U.S. sanctions, first imposed in 1995 and tightened earlier this year, Hosseini said: "We feel comfortable living with the sanctions, although they cause minor problems."

U.S. President Bill Clinton signed a new law in August, allowing Washington to punish foreign companies that invest more than \$40 million in the energy sectors in Iran and Libya, two countries which Washington regards as key sponsors of international terrorism.

Earlier sanctions imposed in 1995 banned American firms from dealing with Iran.

Hosseini said that U.S. companies, "which have become political pawns in the hands of their government, will suffer most of these sanctions."

European governments, he said, "have started to think about taking measures aimed at opposing the U.S. sanctions."

These realities, he told MEES, would eventually undermine U.S. efforts to stifle Iran's economy.

MJF's Function in 2nd Plan

TEHRAN (IRNA) - The Agriculture Organization of Mostafazan and Janbazan Foundation (MJF) is to invest a sum of 211.8 billion rials in the areas of processing industries, water and soil, farming, animal husbandry and horticulture in the Second Five Year Development Plan (1995-1999).

Deputy Head of the Organization for Plan and Budget Yadollah Keshkaran said here Sunday that 97.6 billion rials out of the sum would be spent on the processing industries, 80 billion rials in the water and soil sector, 15.2 billion in the farming sector, 9 billion rials in the animal husbandry and 10 billion rials in the horticulture sector.

Keshkaran said that his organization planned to bring about 11.36 percent of growth in the agriculture, 12 percent in the farm-

ing and horticulture, 9.4 percent in the cattle breeding and poultry farming and 56 percent in the fisheries sectors in the course of the Second Plan annually.

Besides meeting domestic needs, he added, the organization exported considerable amount of its products, including canned foods, concentrated fruits, fruit juices, horticultural products and other foodstuffs, to the Persian Gulf littoral states, the newly independent former Soviet republics and other countries.

Keshkaran said that the organization managed to raise its wheat output up to 52,000 tons from 33,000 tons, that of oats up to 18,000 tons from 14,000 tons, fodder up to 106,000 tons from 54,000 tons and cotton up to 3,600 tons from 1,800 tons annually.

\$1.2b Loan Signed for Kuwait Petrochemical Project

EQUATE
US\$1.2 BILLION PROJECT FINANCE
SIGNING CEREMONY



KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT: Officials gather at a signing ceremony for a loan worth \$1.2 billion that was signed in Kuwait City, Sept. 15, to partially finance the construction of a Kuwaiti-U.S. joint venture petrochemical complex. It is the largest commercial bank financing for a project in the region.

(AFP Photo)

KUWAIT CITY (AFP) - A loan worth \$1.2 billion was signed here on Sunday to partially finance the construction of a Kuwaiti-U.S. joint venture petrochemical complex, the arrangers announced.

"Today we are witnessing the signing of the largest commercial bank financing for a project in the region," said Khaled al-Fayez, chief executive officer of Persian Gulf Investment Corporation (PGIC).

The loan forms part of a financing package for a two-bil-

lion-dollar complex being built in Kuwait by Equate, a joint venture of Union Carbide of the United States and Kuwaiti state-owned Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC).

PIC and Union Carbide both have a 45 percent stake, while Bubiyan Petrochemical Company, a privately owned Kuwaiti firm, holds the remaining 10 percent.

Charles Kline, president of Equate, said the loan was "heavily oversubscribed" by banks wanting to participate. In his speech to welcome representatives of more

than 50 banks attending the signing.

He said demand for petrochemical products was improving. "By mid-1997, our output should be in demand," he said, adding that contractors are set to complete the plant by the July 1, 1997 target date.

Alongside the loan, the financing package includes equity participation worth more than \$700 million.

The group of international and Kuwaiti banks that arranged the syndication are Arab Banking

Corporation, Arab Petroleum Investments Corporation (API-CORP), Chase Manhattan Bank, Citibank, Persian Gulf International Bank, Persian Gulf Investment Corporation, JP Morgan, Kuwait Finance House (KFH) and National Bank of Kuwait.

The loan is made up of two parts, the first worth \$500 million is being provided by Kuwaiti institutions, while the second worth 700 million is coming from Persian Gulf and international institutions.

Both parts include an Islamic package worth \$100 million each, which arranged by KFH, an Islamic financing institution.

The petrochemical complex is being built in Shuaiba industrial area, south of Kuwait City.

It will produce 650,000 tons per year (tpy) of ethane, 450,000 tpy of polyethylene and 350,000 tpy of ethylene glycol, which are used in a wide range of manufacturing industries, including plastics and synthetic textiles.

IMF Representatives Visit Midwife Training Center

TEHRAN (IRNA) - A number of experts with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) visited a rural midwife training center in the city of Najaf-Abad, central Iran, on Saturday.

The center called "Rural Midwifery" serves in family planning, sanitary care during pregnancy and mother health care.

کتابخانه و مرکز اطلاع رسانی

Outcome of Success

Oil, Gas
eries in Iran

action in 2nd Phase

IRAN

WORLD NEWS

tional Rwanda tribunal judge Navanethem Pillay of South Africa, Irish President Mary Robinson of Ireland and Philippines Senate President Leticia Shahani.

The names of Robinson and Brundland have previously surfaced as possible contenders for the top U.N. post, but their positions on abortion and human rights may be too controversial to obtain bipartisan approval in the United States, whose support is key in electing the U.N. secretary general.

The Japanese government is meanwhile understood to have withheld its support from Ogata while campaigning for a permanent Security Council seat.

African delegates maintain that U.N. tradition provides for an African secretary-general to remain for two terms in office.

For now, the two African Security Council members are supporting Boutros-Ghali in line with an endorsement by the Organization of African Unity, but some diplomats say that consideration of a woman could cut across geographical considerations.

The Security Council has agreed that it will not discuss the issue of the secretary general's election until at least October.

The U.N. secretary-general is elected by the 185-nation General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council which casts the decisive vote.

Iran has agreed to accommodate these refugees having already given shelter to two million other refugees, Hosseini remarked.

"If other countries had to cope with such an influx of helpless people, they would definitely have faced an economic crisis," Hosseini said, adding that other countries and international organizations seemed to be happy to remain indifferent and profit by Iran's continuing humanitarian stance.

Interfax reported yesterday that the fighting was quelled by Chechen rebels and Russian soldiers from a joint force set up to enforce the cease-fire in the city.

The joint force, which has a total of about 550 men, cordoned off the area and then searched for the assailants, Interfax said.

Chechen rebel spokesman Movladi Udugov described the attack as "a serious battle." Echo Moscow radio reported. However, Interfax reported that no one was killed.

Itar-Tass said that provocateurs trying to upset the fragile peace process might be to blame.

Although the cease-fire period has been the calmest in Grozny and the rest of Chechnya since the bloody war began in December 1994, the two sides remain far from addressing the political causes for the war.

The peace deal signed August 31 by Lebed and Maskhadov officially ended the war and laid the groundwork for a political solution by ordering the withdrawal of Russian troops and delaying any final decision on Chechnya's political status for up to five years.

However, the provision for freezing the debate over Chechnya's self-declared independence, which Russian troops have failed

to crush in 21 months of fighting, has been heavily criticized in Moscow.

The fiercest critics, such as Zavgayev, have even labeled Lebed a traitor.

Another stumbling block has been the exchange of prisoners, with both sides accusing the other of making impossible demands.

Last week, Tikhomirov suspended the troop withdrawals until all prisoners were released, sparking tensions among the Chechen rebels, who have said that a Russian pull-out is their main demand.

Attempts by the rebels to organize the formation of a coalition government, including several anti-independence figures, have also run into opposition in Moscow.

On Sunday, Lebed said that the rebel proposals were insufficient, because they did not include leaders of the pro-Moscow government.

He said other parties "simply are afraid" to join the rebels' proposed coalition.

An estimated 40,000 people have died in the war.

Two previous peace processes have collapsed. The latest effort came in the wake of a stunning rebel offensive in early August, when they recaptured Grozny and caused heavy losses among the Russian forces.

The presidency will last for two years and the candidate who gathers the highest tally will be elected the president of the country.

The first results, based on a count of 57,000 votes in total across Bosnia, were slow in coming with final results not expected until late yesterday.

However they appeared to show that fears that Iztbegovic would be badly hit by a challenge from his main rival Haris Silajdzic had not been borne out at the ballot box.

Sarajevans had feared that if Silajdzic took too many votes from Iztbegovic, the presidency might pass to Krajisnik, greatly feared by the Bosnian Muslims.

The passive reaction of the Americans to his tour backfired, the president said, adding that U.S. moves served to make the venture more exciting and more fruitful. Heading a high-ranking political and economic delegation, Rafsanjani visited Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and South Africa. The failure of the U.S. to dictate policy to African countries indicated that intimidation and bullying cannot succeed on the international scene, Rafsanjani said.

"The failure of U.S. economic sanctions against Iran is proof of this," he added. The president said that on his visits to African countries suffering from superpower intervention in their internal affairs, they bravely and explicitly stated their opposition to the interference. Rafsanjani said the American action was immature, and that it was beneath the U.S. administration to embark on such cheap and primitive tactics as to hamper the tour. The trip has great significance for Iran, the president said, because it allowed him and his entourage to become more familiar with Africa and to study ways of assisting African countries to make optimum use of their resources.

He said the Iranian delegation

had circumvented Western anti-Iran propaganda by allowing African states to become familiar with the Islamic Republic and its achievements in reconstruction and development. The president said the countries visited by him were willing to follow the same pattern as Iran in development, using solely their own domestic resources and without relying on other countries. Formerly, the Islamic Revolution of Iran was a model for other revolutions across the globe and today there are people around the world advocating the development patterns pursued by Iran, Rafsanjani said. The Ugandan president was also of the belief that the development patterns set by Iran were more effective than other patterns, he said. He added that South African leaders found Iran's experiences in eradicating deprivation, administering social justice and maintaining security very interesting, and asked Iran to put its experiences at their disposal. The President and his delegation signed 30 cooperation agreements with the African states in technical, economic and cultural areas. These contracts make it possible for Iran to be present in East Africa, and the President said a council on Africa would be formed under his chairmanship to follow up their implementation. Among the many positive points of his tour, the President mentioned Iran's mediation between Sudan and Uganda to solve their disputes and normalize their relations. Iran will continue its mediation efforts in other trouble spots on the African Continent, he said. Iran is also to set up branches of the Islamic Azad University, in several African states, offering technical and educational courses in addition to establishing vocational centers for skilled manpower training, the President concluded.

Turkish press reports had predicted that Perry would make such a request.

Iraq said yesterday it had foiled a U.S. plot to divide the country and set up puppet regimes in the Kurdish North and mainly Shia Muslims South.

The Washington Post reported Sunday that the United States had provided almost 100 million dollars to the Kurdish and Arab opposition as part of efforts to overthrow President Saddam Hussein's government.

The CIA-backed program in the North has collapsed since the KDP's domination of the region after the Iraqi intervention.

The Kurds, giving shelter to other opposition groups, had previously controlled the North in defiance of Baghdad since 1991.

But Perry warned Sunday that Iraq could face new attacks unless it pulls out air defenses in the South to ensure the safety of allied pilots patrolling the skies of Southern Iraq.

Iraq said Friday it would no longer fire at allied warplanes, to defuse its military confrontation with the United States. Perry said however that Iraq's word was not enough.

Due to the uncertain situation in Iraq, Turkish Foreign Minister Ciller has postponed for the third time an official visit to Jordan. A Foreign Ministry official in Ankara said due to her intensive diplomatic agenda regarding the developments in Iraq, she postponed her visit to Amman.

Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) leader Massud Barzani

yesterday said the status of Iraqi Kurdistan should be resolved through negotiations with Baghdad.

"We believe that Kurdistan is part of Iraq and we realize the importance, indeed the need to preserve the territorial sovereignty of Iraq," Barzani told the Arab newspaper Al Hayat.

He indicated, however, that a return of Iraqi government's control over the Kurdish-dominated areas of Northern Iraq was not likely in the short-term.

The Iraqi-backed KDP went on to rout forces of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) from most of Northern Iraq, sending tens of thousands of Kurds fleeing towards Iran and Turkey.

Barzani also said that the KDP remained committed to decisions taken by the so-called Kurdish Parliament in favor of a federal solution to the status of Iraqi Kurdistan.

"We reached agreement with the Iraqi government on two points: Respect for Iraqi sovereignty, and our right to exist," he said.

Kuwait has accepted an additional deployment of troops on its territory as part of the U.S. military build-up in the Persian Gulf, a U.S. Embassy spokesman in Kuwait said yesterday.

The Spokesman would not comment on how many additional troops would be deployed, or when the new troops would start arriving. The United States was to start evacuating 2,500 Iraqi Kurds to the Pacific Island of Guam, via Turkey, to spare them from any reprisals by Baghdad after the latest fighting in Northern Iraq.

The Kurdish refugees — who will ultimately go to the United States — were employees at U.S. facilities in the no-fly zone set up by the allies after the Persian Gulf war and their family members.

Republic are now the vanguard in confronting power seekers.

The Leader said the logic of the Islamic Republic of Iran is different from that of big powers of the world which think only of their own interests.

He said the fact that the U.S., despite its lack of proximity to the region, is interfering in the internal affairs of the Persian Gulf and is dictating to Iraq, is an example of complying with the law of the jungle and following the logic of barbarism.

Ayatollah Khamenei said, "Today, our enemies are trying to take the banner of 'champion of justice' from us ... They want to force us to confess that we will no longer seek justice in the world, and to claim that all efforts made by the Muslim nation of Iran to propagate Islamic values and uphold the supremacy of the Almighty God had been in vain."

The Leader said, "When other nations now dare to say 'no' to the global arrogance, it is because the Iranian nation is ready to rub the nose of any interventionist in the dirt."

Iran's Supreme Leader said representatives of the Islamic Republic and the Iranian President are accorded a warm welcome (wherever they visit) because of the prestige of the banner of the Islamic Republic which owes its strength to the late Leader Imam Khomeini.

He said Iran's diplomacy is not centered only on its own national interests, it also pays due attention to the interests of other countries and to helping them get rid of

WEATHER

Tehran Temperature			
Maximum	37°C		
Minimum	25°C		
Partly cloudy with wind			
Temperature extremes till noon today			
High: Dehloran	44°C		
Low: Ardebil	6°C		
Temperature in some major cities of the world on Sept. 16, 1996			
Moscow	14°C	London	21°C
Jeddah	37°C	Abu Dhabi	37°C
Karachi	31°C	Madrid	25°C
Paris	19°C	Rome	22°C

deprivation and fighting oppression.

Before Ayatollah Khamenei's address, IRGC Commander, Major-General Mohsen Rezaei, gave a report on the state of preparedness of the IRGC personnel to carry out the commands of the Supreme Leader.

In Northern Iraq, bloody clashes started between two Kurdish rivals, Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) and Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) on Aug. 17.

The Iraqi government supported the KDP which defeated the PUK and took control of Northern Iraq with the help of Baghdad's military machine.

The United States intervened and fired some 44 missiles at the suburbs of Baghdad early this month.

Russia, along with China and France, raised legal objections to the U.S. action.

Iran, however, condemned both Iraq and the United States. Tehran also declared that in Kurdish affairs it does not favor any particular faction.

Vaezi, during his stay in Moscow will also exchange views with Russian officials on issues such as the Tajik government's trouble with the opposition. Both Iran and Russia have played a crucial role in defusing the Tajik crisis.

The legal regime of the Caspian Sea is another issue on the agenda of Vaezi's talks with the Russian officials.

He claimed the movement had wide support among Afghans, saying peace and order had been restored to Taliban-controlled areas enabling people to rebuild their lives shattered by the "mischievous" of Mujahedeen factions who ousted Afghanistan's former Soviet invaders.

Sarobi, a government stronghold 70 kilometers (45 miles) east of Taliban-encircled Kabul, is expected to be the main target of the movement which emerged from the Quranic schools of Pakistan in November 1994.

Sarobi, which lies between Jalalabad and Kabul, controls the northbound passage through the Tagob valley to Bagram, the only operational airstrip left under the control of the beleaguered government.

According to reports from Kabul, the coalition government of President Burhanuddin Rabbani and Premier Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who was until June based at Sarobi, has been sending reinforcements to the threatened town.

Simultaneously, the administration has sent special emissaries to the Uzbek capital Tashkent for talks with northern Afghan warlord General Abdul Rashid Dostam in a bid to win his military support against Taliban.

An official spokesman said in Kabul on Sunday that Dostam was willing to join the government but only if certain conditions — which are to be discussed in Tashkent by Interior Minister Yunus Qanuni and Hekmatyar's representative Humayun Jarir — were met.

Kabul forces have laid landmines at the entrance to Tangi Abreshom, or Silk Gorge, 30 kilometers (20 miles) east of Sarobi, on the national highway to Jalalabad, a frontline commander in the area told AFP.

Muttaqi said the Islamic movement was consolidating its hold in areas it dramatically swept up control of over the past week, while the Taliban Shoor, or Council, was working out a strategy for further moves in the area.

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ANALYSIS

Eye on Greater East Asia

"The New ASEAN Animal, Called AIA"



BY BEHZAD SHAHANDAH, Ph.D.

Economic Ministers from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) endorsed a proposal last week to turn the entire region into one borderless investment area.

The move is aimed at boosting its attractiveness even as it tears down internal tariff barriers under the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), to be created by 2003. 88 percent of all products traded between ASEAN members would have tariffs lowered to zero-to-five percent by 2000, three years ahead of scheduled progress towards AFTA.

The plan comes amid concern over declining foreign direct investment (FDI) in ASEAN, which groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Cambodia and Laos are scheduled to join the regional grouping next year, while Burma (Myanmar) is currently preparing to take part in the organization.

The emergence of low-cost investment locations elsewhere in the region, such as China and India, offering cheaper labor and much vaster markets, is seen to be hurting the competitive edge of ASEAN.

The initiative - creating the ASEAN Investment Area (AIA) - will help investments move "as freely as possible" among member-states and attract foreign investors from outside the region.

An agreement on setting up the AIA could, however, be signed as early as November ahead of an informal summit of the seven-nation grouping which, due to necessity, logic and the will of its leaders, is steadily moving towards closer economic integration.

Once the scheme comes into force, foreign investors having a joint venture in one ASEAN country could export their products to another ASEAN state at zero-to-five percent tariff rates.

The joint venture will work should partners from two ASEAN member states have a combined equity stake of at least 30 percent, according to one idea tossed around last week at the Jakarta meeting.

In typically pragmatic ASEAN fashion, sometimes called "The ASEAN Way", the proposal would be steadily built upon to enhance its features. "The ASEAN Way" is moving slowly towards consensus, guaranteeing the scheme to work. ASEAN would not have the whole elephant sitting there one day but will put it together slowly.

The proposal for turning ASEAN into a common investment region was first made at the December 1995 Bangkok summit of the leaders from the seven-nation grouping.

"The promotion of direct investment into and amongst ASEAN member-countries will help in the development and growth of ASEAN economies," the leaders said in a joint declaration. Since then, the ASEAN has devised a plan which now awaits implementation.

ASEAN would be promoted as a collective investment location for foreign manufactures, investors would be putting their money in the region whatever their physical location may be. "You need to get ASEAN progress economically at the same pace," an ASEAN official recently said. "At the end of the day, it is not a zero-sum game - as one country progresses, the rest of the region also does."

An investor could set up shop in Vietnam for low-end, labor-intensive production, in Thailand for mid-level manufacturing and in Singapore for technology-intensive high-end. The resulting product could be labeled "Made in ASEAN" and sold worldwide.

"The ASEAN Way" transformed the membership of socialist Vietnam from a disadvantaged and negative stance (not on par economically with the rest of ASEAN) into a plus by attracting investors looking for low-end manufacturing to move their investment to Hanoi, then use it to boost Vietnam and ASEAN economies together.

With a collective external trade of \$700 billion, ASEAN is the world's fourth largest trading region after the United States, Japan and the European Union. And destined to move up the ladder further with schemes like AIA.

Syria, Israel Exchange Messages on Troop Movements

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Syria and Israel have reassured each other through U.S. mediators that troop movements by their respective forces were of a non-aggressive nature, newspapers here reported yesterday.

Yediot Aharonot said the Israeli government stressed in a message to the Syrian leadership last week that it had "no intention of attacking Syrian forces either in Lebanon or Syria."

In response, Damascus said a redeployment of its forces in Lebanon in recent days had no aggressive objectives.

Israel's Internal Security Minister, Avigdor Kahalani, also dismissed the risk of a full-blown confrontation between the Middle

East armies. He said Syrian troop movements in Lebanon were "not of an offensive nature."

Despite the reported assurances, Israeli radio said yesterday that Israeli forces along the Jewish state's northern border and in occupied South Lebanon had taken "precautionary measures." It did not elaborate.

Uzi Landau, chairman of Parliament's Defense Committee, said that although there appeared to be no imminent threat to Israel, "We must do all we can to monitor these (Syrian) movements to avert surprises, because in the Middle East anything can happen."

Since August, Syria has been moving troops in Lebanon. Last week, the Syrians abandoned sev-

eral military positions in Beirut.

Citing information from Lebanon, the Israeli press said the Syrian troops have relocated in the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon and that there has been no reduction in the overall size of the Syrian contingent.

Syria maintains some 35,000 soldiers in Lebanon ostensibly as peacekeepers to prevent the resurgence of civil war.

In Beirut, sources said the government had been advised of the Syrian plans. But it has not officially commented on the development.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said Friday his government was monitoring "very

closely" the Syrian troop movements.

Syrian-Israeli relations have been marred with distrust since Netanyahu, leader of Israel's hardline Likud, was elected prime minister in May.

Their peace talks, launched in October 1991, have been stalled over Syrian demands that the new Israeli government commit itself to a land-for-peace settlement.

Netanyahu has ruled out major territorial concessions.

He says his government will not relinquish the Golan Heights, occupied in the 1967 Middle East War - Syria's precondition for ending a half-century state of war between the two countries.

Megawati Prevented from Running in Next Election

JAKARTA, INDONESIA (AFP) - Opposition Leader Megawati Sukarnoputri will not be able to run in Indonesia's 1997 general elections after the official election body refused to accept her candidacy list here yesterday.

An official from the General Election Institute, Suyadi, refused to accept the parliamentary candidates' list, which included her name and was presented by Indonesian Democracy Party (PDI) officials loyal to Megawati.

According to the law, only candidates nominated by one of Indonesia's three official parties are allowed to take part in the general elections.

Megawati's name was not in the list submitted earlier yesterday by the government-approved PDI leader, Suryadi.

Megawati, the daughter of founding president Sukarno, was ousted by a government-backed party faction in June.



JAKARTA, INDONESIA: Head of the government-backed faction of the Indonesian Democracy Party (PDI) Suryadi submits a list of 803 candidates for the 1997 general elections to Indonesian Minister of the Interior Yogie Memed at the General Elections Institute Sept. 16. Opposition Leader Megawati Sukarnoputri, who was ousted as PDI chairman, failed to submit her list of candidates.

(AFP Photo)

Romania and Hungary Sign Historic Treaty

TIMISOARA, ROMANIA (Reuters) - Romania and Hungary signed a key treaty yesterday to end centuries-old disputes and to boost the two ex-Communist countries' chances of joining NATO and the European Union.

The prime ministers of Romania and Hungary, Nicolae Vacaroiu and Gyula Horn, signed the pact in the western city of Timisoara, on the border with Yugoslavia and Hungary, in the presence of Romania's President Ion Iliescu.

"We have witnessed a special event, with deep impact on Romanian-Hungarian relations, and with a European and international impact," Vacaroiu said after signing the document with Horn.

Religious Schools Closed in Pakistani Tribal Town After 97 Killings

ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN (AFP) - Religious schools have been temporarily closed in a Pakistani tribal town after 97 killings there in five days of fighting between Sunni and Shia Muslims, a minister said.

Interior Minister Naseer Ullah Babar told the National Assembly late Sunday about the deaths and said the religious schools were the main cause of sectarian tensions and bloodshed in Parachinar.

He said in addition to the 97 deaths, 89 people were wounded in sectarian clashes in the remote northwestern mountainous town located on the Afghan-Pakistan border.

Babar, who was replying to opposition attacks against the government over the strife, said

paramilitary troops had controlled the situation.

Violence erupted in Parachinar last Tuesday after a clash between rival student groups, spreading over a vast area in the tribal region known as Kurram Agency, home to 300,000 people of mixed sectarian denominations.

Newspaper reports have said the fighting, involving automatic weapons, rockets and mortars, claimed around 200 lives.

Opposition Deputy Asfandiyar Wali, from the northwest frontier province, claimed in the assembly that the sectarian violence left 273 people dead.

Babar said an inquiry had been ordered and a report would be presented to the parliament after completion of the probe.

Flash Floods Kill Dozens South of Khartoum

KHARTOUM, SUDAN (AP) - Surging waters swept through shantytowns near the Sudanese capital, killing dozens of people and leaving thousands homeless, Sudanese television reported yesterday.

They were the latest floods to devastate the poor region around Khartoum, where the White Nile and Blue Nile converge.

State-owned television broadcast footage of flood waters inundating shantytowns in the southern suburb of Mayo. Houses built of mud had been swept away, the television reported.

There were no specific figures on the dead and homeless, but the television said "dozens of people" had died.

Atlantis Blasts Off

CAPE CANAVERAL, FLORIDA (AP) - Space shuttle Atlantis blasted off yesterday to retrieve NASA astronaut Shannon Lucid from Russia's orbiting Mir station, but quickly ran into equipment trouble that threatened to cut the mission short.

Soon after Atlantis reached orbit - more than six weeks late

because of mechanical and weather delays - a hydraulic power unit shut down prematurely. "Engineers could not immediately determine what went wrong and were evaluating the capability of the two remaining units and their impact on mission duration," mission control said. "We kind of figured as much,"

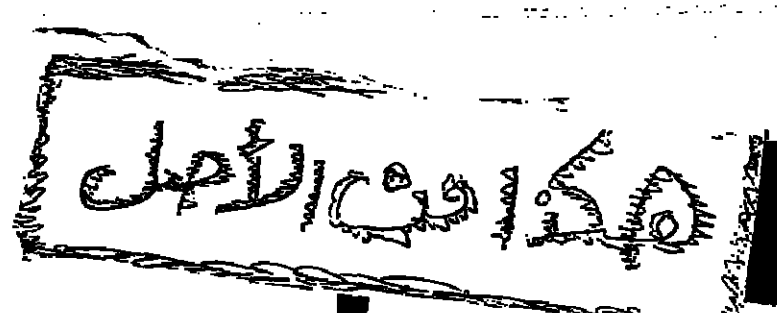
shuttle Commander William Readdy replied.

Flight directors were considering moving up the shuttle's arrival at Mir from Wednesday to Tuesday. The shuttle and station were supposed to be docked for five days, allowing Lucid to swap places with astronaut John Blaha and several tons of supplies to be

exchanged.

Lucid has been living on Mir since March. Bringing her back is NASA's No. 1 priority.

While the hydraulic units are not used in orbit, they are vital during the shuttle's return to earth, controlling the wing flaps.



Kashmir's Second Round of Voting Tense

BILBEHARA, INDIA (AP) - Voters in this largely pro-separatist town yesterday refused to take part in state legislative elections that Indian officials hoped would bring stability to Kashmir.

Candidates urging people to choose delegates to the state legislature were ignored. A small group of youths throwing stones at a polling booth were chased away by troops.

Some 60,000 security troops fanned out across four districts in south and southwest Jammu-Kashmir state for the second round of balloting yesterday. Voting was largely peaceful, though police reported three grenade explosions in Anantnag, about 50 kilometers (30 miles) south of Srinagar. No injuries were reported.

Three years ago in Bijbehara, about 35 kilometers (20 miles) south of Srinagar, the state capital, Indian troops opened fire on a pro-independence demonstration.

"More than 50 people have been shot here. Do you expect us to cast votes?" asked Mohamed Ramzan Dar, a Bijbehara resident who saw the election as another attempt by the central government to consolidate control over Kashmir.

Brazilians Take to Streets to Protest Road Deaths

BRASILIA, BRAZIL (Reuters) - Thousands of Brazilians took to the streets on Sunday to protest "savage traffic" that claims more than 50,000 lives every year.

Police said up to 5,000 people protested in the capital Brasilia and national CBN radio said several thousand more joined a march in Rio de Janeiro.

President Fernando Henrique Cardoso, writing in the *Correio Braziliense* newspaper, said the 50,000 road deaths registered in Brazil every year was a cause for shame.

Religious Jews Want Flights Without Movies, Stewardesses

JERUSALEM (AP) - Leading ultra-Orthodox rabbis yesterday asked airlines to provide "modest" flights during which no movies are shown and only male flight attendants look after male passengers.

The appeal, published in several Israeli religious newspapers, said thousands of religious passengers would stay grounded unless the demands were met on flights to and from Israel.

The ad referred to movies normally shown on flights as "immodest images...in the face of a holy nation."

"This is a holy and sensitive call on airlines to arrange a possibility of flying on their planes without breaking modesty or holiness," said the appeal.

It was signed by leading rabbis, including former Chief Sephardic Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, as well as judges of Israel's religious courts and a religious party, Agudat Israel.

Pentagon Faults Military in Saudi Blasts

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A new Pentagon report sharply criticizes the U.S. military for failure to provide adequate security for American troops in Saudi Arabia before 19 airmen died in a June 25 truck bomb blast there, a defense official said yesterday.

"There was sufficient intelligence to indicate there was a terrorist threat," said the official, who asked not to be identified.

The report was to be released later yesterday at a Defense Department news conference.

The investigation, headed by retired Army Gen. Wayne Downing, was ordered by Defense Secretary William Perry following two terrorist bomb blasts in Saudi Arabia. One killed 19 U.S. airmen in Dhahran on June 25 and another killed five Americans and two Indians last November 13 Riyadh.

Perry and other top defense officials have come under harsh criticism from some members of congress, especially Republican Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania who at one point called on the secretary to resign.

The defense official said that the report criticized both the leadership of a U.S. air force wing

then based at Dhahran and the Defense Department "chain of command" for not providing adequate guidance and support for officers on the scene.

The report, according to the official, said that "there was considerable information" that terrorists opposed to the U.S. military presence in Saudi Arabia had both the ability and the intent to strike at American forces.



TURKISH-IRAQI BORDER, TURKEY: Turkish border posts watch Kurdish refugees as they cross the border between Turkey and Northern Iraq here Sept. 15. The Kurds, trained by U.S. to fight Iraqi Leader Saddam Hussein, are currently being evacuated with their families to Turkey and further to the U.S.A. Some 2,000 Kurds have already crossed the border. (AFP Photo)

Lebanese Goes on Trial for Fire That Shocked Germany

LUEBECK, GERMANY (AFP) - A young Lebanese man accused of starting the fire which shocked Germany when it ravaged a hotel for foreigners in Luebeck, killing 10 occupants and injuring 38, went on trial in the northern port city yesterday amid strict security.

Safwan Eid, who has strenuously denied starting the horrific fire of early January 18, told the court he was 20 years old, without profession, but did not respond to the charges of aggravated arson and negligently causing bodily harm. His counsel said he was too agitated to do so immediately.

The trial comes amid continuing uncertainty surrounding the fatal blaze, which provoked public outrage in the belief it was the work of German neo-Nazi extremists. Most of the hotel's occupants and victims were black Africans seeking asylum.

Four German youths were arrested in the neighboring region of Mecklenburg-West Pomerania shortly following the fire, after three of them were seen in a car in the early hours in a Luebeck service station. One had the appearance of a neo-Nazi skinhead.

But police concluded the four had a water-tight alibi and rapidly released them.

Eid, one of some 50 occupants of the hotel where he was living with several relatives, was arrested within two days of the fire on the basis of the remark "We Were the Ones" that he allegedly made to one of the rescue-workers at the scene.

Pro-Syrian Candidates Sweep Last Round of Lebanon's Elections

BEIRUT, LEBANON (AFP) - Pro-Syrian candidates almost made a clean sweep of Lebanon's last round of parliamentary elections in the eastern Bekaa Valley, according to unofficial results yesterday.

The parliamentary bloc of the Shia Muslim group Hizbollah lost three seats overall in the five rounds of region-by-region polling.

The Interior Ministry said voter turnout reached 52 percent in the Syrian-controlled Bekaa Valley on Sunday, after a last-hour rush at polling stations.

Twenty-two out of the 23 candidates on a Damascus-imposed joint list between the pro-Syrian Amal, a secular Shia group, and Hizbollah won seats in the Bekaa, the unofficial results showed.

The two Amal candidates, Housing Minister Mahmoud Abou Hamdan, with 104,065

votes, and Defense Minister Mohsen Dalloul, with 97,450, ranked first and second.

The only non-coalition member to win at the polls, completing Lebanon's 128-member Parliament, was Ismail Sukkariyeh, who is close to Prime Minister Rafic Hariri but also a pro-Syrian figure.

All three Hizbollah members on the list won along with two supporters, bringing its total to nine in the elections since August 18, down from a bloc of 12 seats including non-members close to the party in the 1992 elections.

Also among the list's winners were Elie Skaff, a Greek-Catholic popular with Muslims and Christians, former Parliament Speaker Hussein Hussein and President Elias Hrawi's nephew, Kholil Hrawi, according to unofficial results.

Muslim Activists Warn of "Holy War" After Deadly Clashes

LAGOS, NIGERIA (AFP) - Islamic extremists in northern Nigeria have warned they will launch a holy war if the authorities fail to free their chief, who was arrested after clashes with police left six dead, press reports said yesterday.

The fundamentalists in Zaria in Kaduna state said they would begin their "Jihad", or holy war, if the security services did not free Sheikh Ibrahim Ahmad Zak-Zaki by Thursday, the Tribune daily said.

Supporters of the preacher fought police in Zaria on Friday at the cost of six lives, while several people were injured, according to police figures. Reports in the independent press said the toll could be higher.

The clashes in Zaria followed a demonstration by Muslim fundamentalists protesting against the arrest Thursday of the 34-year-old Sheikh Zak-Zaki, a mystic preacher renowned for inflammatory sermons.

Britain Ready for Fierce Fight Over Hong Kong Democracy

HONG KONG (AFP) - Britain will fight Beijing's plans to scrap Hong Kong's Legislative Council next year, a British minister said here yesterday.

The Foreign Office Minister for Hong Kong, Jeremy Hanley, told reporters Britain did not accept China's plan to set up a provisional legislature and did not regard the dismantling of the territory's current elected mini-parliament as inevitable.

"We will continue to try to persuade the Chinese that it is a thoroughly bad idea," Hanley said after meeting Governor Chris Patten and his top advisers.

"I was very firm when we talked about the provisional legislature in Beijing last week," Hanley said.

Britain was "trying to impress upon them not just the undesirability of it but also the practical difficulties that would flow from a decision of that sort," Hanley said.

"We do not regard it as being inevitable. We hope therefore that wiser counsels will be adhered to."

He said British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind would bring up the matter when he meets his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen in New York this month.

"As far as we are concerned, the future of Hong Kong is a big issue and any thing that is likely to dent the confidence in the future of Hong Kong for us is very important."

The World at a Glance



NEW DELHI, INDIA

Mother Teresa was taken to a Calcutta hospital yesterday she fell and complained of giddiness, a member of her charity group said.

CAIRO, EGYPT - Egyptian scientists will design a drill for a Russian mission to Mars in 2001 that will search for life.

ROME, ITALY - The head of Italy's state-run railroad has been arrested on corruption charges, Italian news agencies reported yesterday.

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM - Two Belgian girls were kidnapped by two men in the southern town of Bouillon for about nine hours but found safe early on Sunday near the French border, police said.

BELFAST, N.IRELAND - Irish Republican officials on Sunday dismissed reports that a conference planned for next month would be a front for a landmark convention at which IRA guerrilla fighters could agree to a new cease-fire.

BRASILIA, BRAZIL - Police on Sunday were investigating the suspicious death of a goat standing for mayor in a northeastern Brazilian town, newspapers reported.

METZ, FRANCE - Three children died in a fire at the weekend in northeastern France, police said yesterday.

KAMPALA, UGANDA - Heavy fighting between Zairean government troops and armed rebels in eastern Zaire has forced hundreds of people to flee across the border into Uganda, New Vision newspaper reported here yesterday.

HONG KONG - A protest ship will leave Hong Kong this weekend to protest Japanese sovereignty over disputed islands in the East China Sea.

NEW DELHI, INDIA - A New Delhi court yesterday issued an arrest warrant against a former Indian minister who defied an order to return from overseas to face an investigation into corruption charges.

PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA - Cambodian co-premier Hun Sen yesterday defended a royal pardon for breakaway Khmer Rouge Leader Ieng Sary, calling it a "great success" for the country.

(DISPATCHES)

toration of Middle East

O'Sullivan Wins Asian Classic Snooker

BANGKOK (AFP) - World number eight Ronnie O'Sullivan fought back to beat Brian Morgan 9-8 in an exciting all-English final of the Suncory Asian Classic Snooker Tournament here early Monday.

The 20-year-old O'Sullivan lost the first three frames to Morgan, ranked 49th in the world, but pulled back with three straight frames, only to lose the next three.

However, O'Sullivan took the following three frames to pull even again, and after trading the next three frames with Morgan, prevailed over the last two to win the match before an enthusiastic crowd.

IRAN NEWS

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SPORTS

Colts Crumple Cowboys

DALLAS, TEXAS (AFP) - Quarterback Jim Harbaugh, dubbed "Captain Comeback" for his late-game rallies, guided Indianapolis from an 18-point deficit to a stunning 25-24 American Football upset of Dallas here Sunday.

Harbaugh completed 19-of-28 passes for 244 yards and two touchdowns to keep the injury-riddled Colts unbeaten through three National Football League games while the reigning League champions fell to 1-2.

"For me personally, this might be the best win I've ever been associated with because it was a great team victory," said Harbaugh, whose club was without a League-high eight hurt starters.

"When you've got guys who haven't played much in and fight like they did, it's a great team victory."

Colts' kicker Cary Blanchard's fourth field goal of the game, a 43-yarder with 51 seconds to play, made the difference. Dallas kicker Chris Boniol had a 56-yard field goal attempt hit the crossbar as time expired.

"I came up just short," Boniol said. "It was long, but just not long enough. It's a bad feeling when you know you've hit it as well as you can, yet it's still not good enough."

Dallas quarterback Troy Aikman completed 18-of-28 passes for 184 yards and one touchdown while Emmitt Smith ran for 101 yards. But the Cowboys, who led 21-3 in the second quarter, ran short of time on their final drive.

"I knew the last field goal was too far, but we had no choice,"

Aikman said. "We either had to kick the field goal or take one shot in the end zone. It would have been tough to get in one more play, fifty-seven yards, 56 yards, 53 yards, 52 yards, it doesn't make a lot of difference."

The Colts rose to 3-0 for the first time since 1977 with their first victory over Dallas since 1970 in the fifth Super Bowl.

Indianapolis came within a final-play dropped end-zone pass from reaching the Super Bowl last season. Now the Colts have served notice they might be ready for another run.

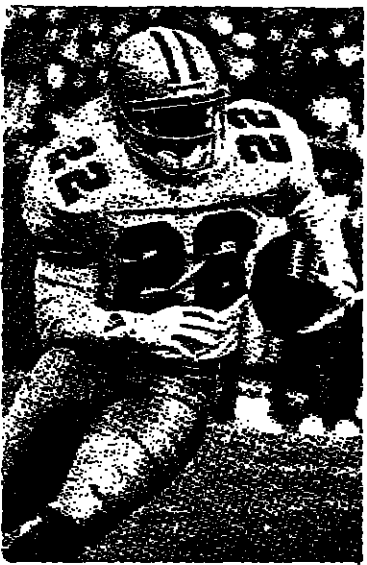
Green Bay's Brett Favre threw for three touchdowns in a 42-10 rout of San Diego. Favre, who spent the summer fighting an addiction to pain-killers, has a League-high 10 touchdown passes. The Packers have outscored foes 115-26, the biggest margin in the NFL.

Safety Leroy Butler made his fourth interception and returned it 90 yards for a touchdown. The Packers forced four turnovers and have 14 takeaways in three games, matching their total for all of last year.

The Packers visit Minnesota next week for another showdown of unbeaten. The Vikings used two Scott Sisson field goals in the final 7:25 to beat Chicago 20-14 and reach 3-0 for the first time in 21 years.

"I'm still not as sharp as I would like to be," said Viking quarterback Warren Moon, who completed half his 44 passes for 239 yards. "I guess we did enough good things to get the win."

The Miami Dolphins stayed unbeaten by rallying from a 14-0 deficit to beat the winless New York Jets 36-27. Dan Marino threw for 257 yards and three touchdowns.



Emmitt Smith

Kansas City remained unbeaten by dumping winless Seattle 35-17. Marcus Allen ran for two touchdowns to move into second place on the all-time list with 127 and Steve Bono threw for three more. Terrell Davis ran four yards for the winning touchdown while Alfred Williams forced and recovered a deciding fumble as unbeaten Denver beat Winless Tampa Bay 27-23. The Broncos are 3-0 for the first time since 1989.

New England and Oakland won their first games. The Patriots blanked Arizona 31-0 while Oakland welcomed back quarterback Jeff Hostetler by beating Jacksonville 17-3.

CYCLING:

Tour of Spain Minali in Control

CORDOBA, SPAIN (AP) - Italian Nicola Minali won the ninth stage of the Tour of Spain cycling race Sunday, a 204-kilometer leg through the hot plains of Southern Spain from Jerez de la Frontera to Cordoba.

For Minali, the stage victory was his second in a row and third overall in the 2,447-mile 22-stage cycling race.

The overall leader remained Minali's fellow Italian Fabio Baldato, riding for MG-Tecnogym team, who finished seventh on the day.

Though Minali, a top sprinter, remains 25 minutes behind Baldato, he took pride in having proved his talents in the long, straight stretches.

"If I had lost this stage it would have been the worst defeat of my life," said Minali.

Hot on Minali's heels throughout the race was Belgian Tom Steels and Giovanni Lombardi of Italy, who finished second and third respectively.

Lombardi, riding for Polti team, holds second place overall, 20 seconds behind Baldato. Defending champion Laurent Jalabert remained for another day in third place, 21 seconds off the lead.

Five-time Tour of France champion Miguel Indurain lies 1 minute and 35 seconds off the lead.

Following a rest day, the tour heads north Tuesday for a 46.5-kilometer time trial from the town El Tiemblo to the city Avila North of Madrid.

Tiger Falter to Give Fiori Victory

COAL VALLEY, ILLINOIS (AFP) - Tiger Woods suffered a quadruple bogey on the fourth hole here Sunday and blew a chance to win his first pro title after only three weeks on the U.S. PGA tour.

"I let it slip away in a heartbeat," said Woods, who twice found the water at the par-four fourth. "I had a shot. I just didn't execute it. I felt like I had an opportunity, mentally, I did a good job. Physically, I made mistakes and didn't recover."

Ed Fiori ended a 14-year victory drought, firing a three-under par 67 to finish at 12-under par 268 and beat Andrew Magee by one stroke at the \$1.2 million Quad City Classic.

Sports Highlights



MADRID, SPAIN: Argentinian player Juan Eduardo Esnaider (R) of Atletico Madrid fights for the ball with Moroccan Nouredine Naybet of Deportivo La Coruna late September 15 at the Calderon Stadium in Madrid. Deportivo La Coruna defeated Madrid 2-0. (AFP Photo)

Milan 1, Sampdoria 2

PARIS (AFP) - AC Milan suffered their second defeat in four days on Sunday as the Italian champions following up their European Cup humiliation by crashing 2-1 at Sampdoria.

Milan, beaten 3-2 by FC Porto in the Champions League on Wednesday, dominated the first half, and George Weah opened the scoring with a powerful shot after 13 minutes in Genoa.

But Argentina's Juan Sebastian Veron leveled just before the break from a free kick and Mancini headed in a cross from Frenchman Christian Karembeu on 77 minute to seal the points.

Under-pressure coach Oscar Tabarez, again without veteran skipper and defender Franco Baresi, could only look on in despair as Milan searched vainly for an equalizer.

Milan's arch rivals Juventus earlier defeated Cagliari 2-1 with Croatian striker Alen Boksic, who scuppered Manchester United in midweek, again on target. Boksic, bought from Lazio, needed only nine minutes to put Juventus in front following Alessandro Del Piero's pass.

Ciro Ferrara added the second, volleying home Del Piero's long free-kick.

As Roma went top of the Serie A on goal difference after beating Vicenza 2-0 with goals from Uruguayan Daniel Fonseca and Argentine Abel Balbo.

Right behind Roma on six points from two matches are newcomers Bologna and Roy Hodgson's Inter Milan.

Bologna won 2-0 in Verona while Inter beat Perugia by the only goal.

Elsewhere, Gabriel Batistuta rescued a point for Fiorentina at Atalanta in a 2-2 draw, while Parma were held 0-0 at Piacenza.

Lazio are meanwhile pointless after a 1-0 defeat at home to Udinese.

In Spain, none of the top four won on a day when champions Atletico Madrid crashed 2-0 at home to Deportivo la Coruna, leaving Bobby Robson's Barcelona to take top spot on goal difference following a 1-1 draw at closest challengers Santander. Brazilian youngster Ronaldo blasted the Catalan club ahead with his first League goal for Barca only for Santander's Uruguayan winger Fernando Correa to snatch the equalizer after the break.

The third side on seven points from three games, Real Sociedad, could only manage a 1-1 draw at home to Sporting Gijon.



LEICESTER, ENGLAND: Patrick Berger gets his pass away for Liverpool despite the close attention of Neil Lennon during their British Premiership encounter against Leicester City at Filbert Street September 15. Liverpool won 3-0. (AFP Photo)

IRAN
BUSINESS NEWS

Foreign Investment Deals May Be Clinched at N. Korean Meet

RAJIN, NORTH KOREA (Reuters) - North Korea's biggest experiment with capitalism moved into high gear on Sunday as foreign businessmen scurried to clinch agreements or lay the groundwork for deals in the isolated Stalinist State.

Speculation mounted that pacts worth hundreds of millions of dollars could be announced when a historic three-day investment forum concluded with a late afternoon news conference.

North Korea, which has sneered at the capitalist world for decades, is now hoping to create a 750 sq km (280 sq mile) free trade zone in its northeast and attract enough foreign investors to help revive its teetering economy.

Chinese and overseas Koreans are expected to provide much of the \$100 million required to make the Rajin-Sonhung free trade zone a success in the short term and could be among the first foreign businessmen to announce deals.

Observers at the forum said negotiations for a joint venture flour mill with the bordering Chinese province of Yangi and talks on construction of an oil refinery were the most likely to yield the first deals.

Yangi province was also said to be discussing a deal for a bottling plant and an plastic factory, while Hong Kong and overseas Korean concerns were focusing on a five-star hotel.

The Japanese city of Niigata and China's Jilin Province were also poised on Sunday to sign an

Far East Russian Workers Poised for Indefinite Strike

MOSCOW (AFP) - Thousands of energy-sector workers in Primorye in the Russian far east were to go on strike Monday to press for the resignation of the region's governor, whom they blame for non-payment of their wages.

A last-minute effort Sunday by managers at the main Dalenergo Electric Power Station failed to persuade its 15,000 workers to abandon their indefinite strike plans, Russia's Itar-Tass news agency said.

Some 8,000 workers, including transport and factory workers, plus those belonging to several la-

bor unions, were also expected to join the strike, which could involve as many as 30,000 people.

Some 183 employees of the Dalenergo power plant have been on hunger strike for nearly two weeks, demanding that Moscow open an investigation into governor Yevgeny Nazdratenko and his administration.

Union Official Vladimir Mourjak said that workers had been paid 400 million rubles (\$80,000) in salary arrears, but they are owed a total of 29 billion rubles (\$5.8 million).

Bolivians Protest New Agrarian Laws



MOROCHATA, BOLIVIA: Children of Morochata watch as farmers march through their area September 13, 340 km (211 miles) east of La Paz. Some 5,000 farmers are marching to the Bolivian capital to protest the application of new agrarian laws. March leaders reached an agreement with the government of President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada to end the march September 13, but the protest continues because the agreement did not include an accord on giving land to farmers and indigenous residents of the Bolivian Amazon. (AFP Photo)

Bank of England Chief Backs Single Currency

LONDON (AFP) - The governor of the Bank of England, Eddie George, points in an interview published Monday, to the advantages he believes a single European currency would bring to the city financial center.

"The potential pluses for the city are very considerable in regard to the potential of minususes," he told the Financial Times.

George, who was to preside on Monday at the publication of a report on the state of the city's preparedness for Economic and Monetary Union (EMU), said: "I feel that the EMU is an absolutely huge opportunity for the city."

He added: "I see no reason why we should not be ready... I don't think that any judgment that London is lagging behind is based on anything other than emotion."

Britain negotiated an opt-out clause in the Maastricht Treaty which would enable it to stay out of monetary union.

As the government faces pressure from Eurosceptics opposed to European integration, to state clearly that British will not be among the first countries to adopt the common currency, George said.

"I think we should be as constructive and cooperative as we can."

"I cannot see any upside" in ruling out British participation now, he said.

He said the prospect of meeting the conditions for monetary union, which is due to be launched on January 1 1999, "is less likely than it looked a year ago."

George also said he foresaw



EDDIE GEORGE

"no serious implications for the city if access is restricted" to the interbank payment system known as target now being worked out by the European Monetary Institute - the future European central bank.

Target is due to go into operation after the introduction of the Euro, the future EU currency.

Commenting on French and German banks' wish to restrict access to this system for countries outside the EMU founder group, George said "for the first time, something has been introduced in the EMU discussion that is discriminatory for a non-monetary reason... this could change the nature of the debate. It would move from a constructive environment

where people are all working together, to one where people were in a different game of protecting national interests."

"We are not in the business of compromise over target, we are talking about principle," the Financial Times quoted him as saying.

George said "consensus" was vital in discussion on macro-economic issues involving EMU founders and countries outside. "Frankly that consensus is what is critical for the 'ins' and 'outs'. If the 'ins' want to develop this as a truly European Monetary Union rather than an exclusive group, they have to build on this consensus," he said.

Bonn Plans New Budget Cuts, Unions Warn of Strikes

FRANKFURT (Reuters) - A German government minister announced plans at the weekend for a second round of welfare cuts just hours after key elements of a first austerity program received final parliamentary approval on Friday.

Meanwhile industrial unrest loomed as a row flared between unions and employers over cuts in sick pay, a cornerstone of Bonn's bid to boost employment and get its finances in shape in time to qualify for p. unioned European monetary union in 1999.

In addition to sick pay cuts, the three bills passed in cliffhanger votes on Friday cover pension and health reforms as well as a reduction in workers' protection from dismissal.

German Health Minister Horst Seehofer told Bild am Sonntag newspaper that the decisions taken so far amounted to no more than a "minimal program."

"We must save much more in the budget, in taxes and in health and pension insurance," Seehofer said.

Separately, Focus magazine quoted Seehofer as saying unemployed people should be required to take on low paid work in farming and catering sectors hitherto done by 500,000 migrant workers from outside the EU.

"Whoever refuses to do that won't get any money from the labor office," Focus quoted Seehofer, a member of the Christian Social Democrats, the Bavarian sister party of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats, as saying.

News magazine Der Spiegel

reported that Bonn planned to save six to seven billion marks (\$3.9 to \$4.6 billion) through cuts in unemployment benefit, reductions in job creation schemes in eastern Germany and rules requiring the unemployed to accept low-paid work.

Health and pension reforms approved on Friday account for about a third of the 70 billion-mark cuts Bonn is seeking for 1997, most of which are now assured. The cuts in sick pay and protection from firing are aimed at cutting firms' costs and promoting employment.

But unions angrily dismissed calls from employers to amend existing wage deals quickly to include the law allowing firms to cut pay by 20 percent during sick leave.

The law takes effect in November and will immediately affect millions of workers in the chemical, construction, banking and retail sectors.

Union officials said most workers in the giant engineering industry had full sick pay enshrined in wage agreements running until end-1998, and warned employers that those deals were sacrosanct.

UNEP: Industrialized States Phase Out CFCS

TEHRAN, (UNITED NATIONS INFORMATION CENTER) - The production and consumption of chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and many other chemicals have been phased out by all industrialized countries since the beginning of this year, according to the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), Nairobi, Kenya.

But, the dangers posed by the depletion of the Ozone layer continue, since in some developing countries rapid economic growth has been accompanied by a simultaneous increase in the consumption of Ozone Depleting substances (ODS).

As of Sept. 16, 1996, the Second International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer, 75 percent of the world's population in the developing world and in countries with economies in transition have

yet to begin reducing their ODS consumption, the Agency said.

The remaining 25 percent has nearly completed the phase-out of ODS as called for in the Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the Ozone layer, now ratified by 157 countries.

The most important and effective measure in the Montreal Protocol is the commitment to limit the use of, and to gradually phase-out, all of these man-made chemicals, known as ODS, as agreed by the countries which are party to the protocol. Last December in Vienna, the parties agreed to new commitments to strengthen the protocol. Industrialized countries will phase out methyl bromide by the year 2010 and developing countries have agreed to freeze it by 2002 at average 1995-98 levels.

Economic Digest

TORONTO - A Canadian company's decision to hold a board meeting in Cuba is not an attempt to defy U.S. trade sanctions, one of its senior executives said last week.

Sheritt International is Cuba's biggest foreign investor and its continued trade with Havana has drawn U.S. ire. Washington recently forbade executives of the mining company from entering the United States.

But Sheritt executive, Patrice Merrin Best said Friday's meeting was just standard business practice not intended to raise tensions.

"This is normal course business," she said in a telephone interview from Havana. "We move the board meeting through all the places we have businesses and directors."

Recent stepped-up U.S. sanctions penalize foreign companies using property in Cuba that was confiscated from American citizens after the 1959 communist revolution.

About 40 Canadian firms, many of them mining companies, do business in Cuba.

MOSCOW - Russian aircraft makers bitterly accused Aeroflot of driving them to the edge of ruin by rejecting their planes in favor of U.S.-made Boeing jets.

The National Airline announced this month it would add 10 Boeings to its aging fleet because they need fewer repairs and use less fuel than Russian-made passenger jets.

The news was a relief to travelers uneasy after a string of crashes involving Russian-made aircraft, especially the Tupolev.

WASHINGTON - Financial troubles in Russia and Mexico boosted International Monetary Fund lending last year to a record \$26 billion.

The Fund, which helps governments stabilize their currencies, lent \$10 billion to Russia and \$9.86 billion to Mexico in its financial year ended April 30, it reported last week.

WILMINGTON - Italian financier Giancarlo Parretti was aware evidence had been altered in the 1991 trial that cost him control of the MGM Studio, even if there is no proof he tampered with the document.

But a defense lawyer said Parretti didn't know the document had been changed to make it look like it came from Credit Lyonnais, the French bank that financed Parretti's \$1.3 billion purchase of the faded moviemaker in 1990. The next year, the bank removed Parretti as head of the studio.

NEW DELHI - A leading Indian politician, who claims his peasant roots are perfect preparation for government, on Monday admitted he signed budgets without understanding them.

Laloo Prasad Yadav, chief minister of the eastern state of Bihar and president of prime minister H.D. Deve Gowda's Janata Dal (People's Party) told the Times of India daily that financial intricacies were not his forte.

"Though I am the chief minister and the finance minister of the state, I know nothing about the budget-making process and budgetary provisions," he said from the Bihar capital Patna.

"It so happens that files are produced to me by the secretaries and I simply put my signatures on them," he said.

Five Fieri Victory
Liger W...
...and blew a...
...U.S. PGA...
...W...
...make mistakes...
...a thought, frame a three under par...
...beat Andrew M... one stroke...

Highlights



Western...
...rights...
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Sampdoria?

Today in History

1631 - France signs Treaty of Razi with emperor of Morocco.
 1935 - Manuel Quezon is elected first president of the Philippine Commonwealth.
 1948 - Sweden's Count Folke Bernadotte, United Nations mediator in Arab Israeli conflict over Palestine, slain near Jerusalem by Jewish terrorists and is succeeded by Dr. Ralph Bunche of the United States.
 1949 - Fire destroys Noronic, largest passenger steamer on Great Lakes, at Toronto (Canada) pier, killing more than 130 people.
 1963 - Malaysia breaks off diplomatic relations with Indonesia because of what it describes as President Sukarno's increased hostility.
 1964 - United States discloses systems capable of intercepting and destroying armed satellites circling the earth.
 1967 - Riot during soccer game in Turkey kills 42 people and injures 600 others.
 1970 - Open warfare erupts in Jordan between King Hussein's Army and Palestinian guerrillas, precipitating world crisis.
 1978 - Egypt's President Anwar Sadat and Israel's Prime Minister Menachem Begin conclude meeting at Camp David (U.S.) with signing of framework for Middle East peace.
 1980 - Exiled Nicaraguan Leader Anastasio Somoza, is assassinated in explosion that wrecks his car in Asuncion, Paraguay.
 1988 - Burmese troops open fire on crowd of angry demonstrators who surround downtown government building.

No 'Magic Pill' Can Cure Alcoholism

BY DR. ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: My life has turned upside down, and I realize I must do something about my excessive drinking. I think some of my friends have made it out of this hole by taking some special medications. Now I need it as well but don't know what it is or where to find it. Can you please help me?

ANSWER: Sorry but there is no "magic bullet" for the treatment of alcoholism. Alcoholics Anonymous, whose motto is "one day at a time," is still the best place to turn in your situation. Medication is only one part of any effective treatment program, which must be multidisciplinary and cover all bases... social, psychological and biological. The first two are well taken care of by AA and psychiatric counseling.

Medications can help, however, at certain stages of in-hospital treatment if used judiciously. For example, during detoxification (withdrawal) or when stopping drinking suddenly, a heavy drinker usually has anxiety, nervousness, insomnia, cold sweats, nausea and extreme discomfort.

Some drinkers can take this "cold turkey." But if the symptoms are severe, especially if they include seizures, they can be relieved by small oral doses of a benzodiazepine tranquilizer. And the dosage can be increased to relieve severe seizures, delirium tremens (DTs or "shakes"), hallucinations, confusion and galloping heart rate. If you have had seizures in the past after going on the wagon, inform the physician, even if no other symptoms were present.

A complete physical exam is recommended as soon as possible after withdrawal, as heavy drinkers often have underlying and un-

diagnosed liver disease, pneumonia and gastric bleeding. Booze is full of empty calories that provide energy but lack nutrition, so vitamins and nutritional support may be needed.

Be sure to inform your physician of any medications you are taking, as they may interact dangerously with treatment. For example, barbiturates, antidepressants and other drugs can double or triple the effects of alcohol, impairing your coordination for driving and other physical tasks.

Any medical therapy should be coupled with AA attendance, psychiatric counseling and other supportive measures that can help you keep your hard won victory. Good luck!

I Thought You Would Like to Know

In many letters to me, a writer says she is "too embarrassed" to discuss the matter with her personal doctor. The No. 1 subject is urinary incompetence. As many as 10 million Americans suffer with this distressing problem, and statistics show that only about 10 percent of these people receive treatment.

Many treatments exist, from medications, special exercises and behavioral therapy to surgery. Answers exist, too, if you know what questions to ask and then ask them.

The National Kidney Foundation is offering an informative brochure, "Urinary Incontinence: Treating Loss of Urine Control." It's simple, direct and easy to understand; and it can be the important first step to start on the path to help.

CORNUCOPIA

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
 by Henri Arnold and Mike Arklon

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PHOWO
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 MANCEP
 YARBET



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: THE

Yesterday's Jumbles: YACHT TULLE JOCKEY PONCHO
 Answer: What he liked to sing while playing baseball - A "CATCH-Y" TUNE

Hyoscyamus Aureus

Family: Solanaceae



The species included in the genus Hyoscyamus are heavy smelling annual or perennial plants with glandular hairs. They produce alternate leaves and yellowish or violet flowers. The calyx is campanulate and the corolla funnel-shaped, slightly pendant. The plants of this genus are all poisonous but valuable for the extract of drugs used medicinally as tranquilizers and sedatives. The most important characteristic of the species illustrated is its bright golden-yellow flowers with purple throat. It is an annual or biennial species, glandular with numerous stems and leaves lobed or toothed. It establishes itself in rock fissures or on walls and ruins at low altitudes. Flowers April-June.

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DENNIS THE MENACE
 by Hank Ketcham

"I HAD TO COME HOME. I NEED SOMEBODY TO BE ON MY SIDE!"

LEAVE YOUR TIGER IN THE CAR, CALVIN.

CAN'T HOBBS COME ALONG, DAD? HE WON'T EAT ANYBODY!

NO, CALVIN. LET'S GO.

WELL, AT LEAST LET ME OPEN THE WINDOW AND GIVE HIM SOME AIR.

SEE IF HE'LL LEAVE THE KEYS, TOO, SO I CAN LISTEN TO THE RADIO.

I KNOW! I'LL TURN UP MY COLLAR!!

ALL MACHO GUYS TURN UP THEIR COLLARS!

NOW I CAN'T BREATHE. THAT'S A SMALL PRICE TO PAY FOR MACHOHOP.

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کتابخانه

IRAN NEWS

GENEVA (Reuters) - An international think-tank issued a fierce critique lately of the fledgling World Trade Organization (WTO), saying it had failed to bring environment and development concerns into trade policy debate.

The Canadian-based International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) said in a major report on the first 21 months of the WTO that the body also maintained a culture of secrecy and key committees were bogged down in futility.

"The WTO has failed to integrate sustainable development concerns into trade policies, and it still conducts its business behind closed doors," IISD Trade Program Director David Runnals told a news conference.

Runnals, and IISD analyst and report author Konrad Von Moltke, said the Geneva-based trade watchdog had also shown reluctance to develop links with other bodies, especially non-governmental organizations, that were vital for its success.

World Trade Body Hit Over Development, Environment

The 65-page report, "The World Trade Organization and Sustainable Development," was compiled by Von Moltke, an internationally-recognized specialist on the issue, for the WTO's first ministerial conference in Singapore in December.

Sustainable development - a principle approved by world leaders at an "Earth Summit" in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 - is generally defined as ensuring present development needs without jeopardizing the interests of the future.

Emerging economies argue that they need help - including through trade measures - from the richer powers so that they do not have to exhaust their natural resources to fund their development.

The report said it was critical for the future of the Geneva-based body that the ministers, whose agenda is already a topic of highly-charged debate between north and south, address the development issue.

The document said the dominant theme in the WTO had been continuity from its predecessor, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which presided over world trade for 47 years until January 1995.

"A culture of closed decision-

making has persisted, inefficient internal structures have carried over without reflection, and the dispute settlement process still resembles the rules committee of a club," the report asserted.

The dispute procedure, which unlike that of the GATT sets a clear timetable for resolution of trade spats through decisions of neutral panels which cannot be blocked, has been widely seen as the major success of the WTO.

A total of 53 disputes have been brought to the watchdog's Dispute Settlement Body (DSB) within the past 18 months, a much higher rate than came to the GATT, and diplomats say this is because confidence in an outcome is much higher. The IISD report

noted that the first dispute that went through the full panel process - a United States row with Venezuela over standards for imported gasoline which Washington lost - related to the environment.

But it said there was "no evidence that the use of experts was considered...by the panel or any of the parties." Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), especially those involved in environmental and development issues, have long argued that they should have some formal status with the WTO, whose members - currently totalling 123 - are states.

But both developed and developing countries in the WTO mem-

bership have resisted this, although NGOs have been offered official accreditation in Singapore - which will set the body's course for the next two years.

The report said the WTO's committee on trade and development, set to look at how trade can help emerging economies, "has achieved nothing notable".

The two-year-old committee on trade and the environment, it declared, "may continue the record of futility which now dates back 24 years to the first creation of the abortive environment committee of the GATT," it said.

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In an interview with Enteshari, the outstanding director general in the country:

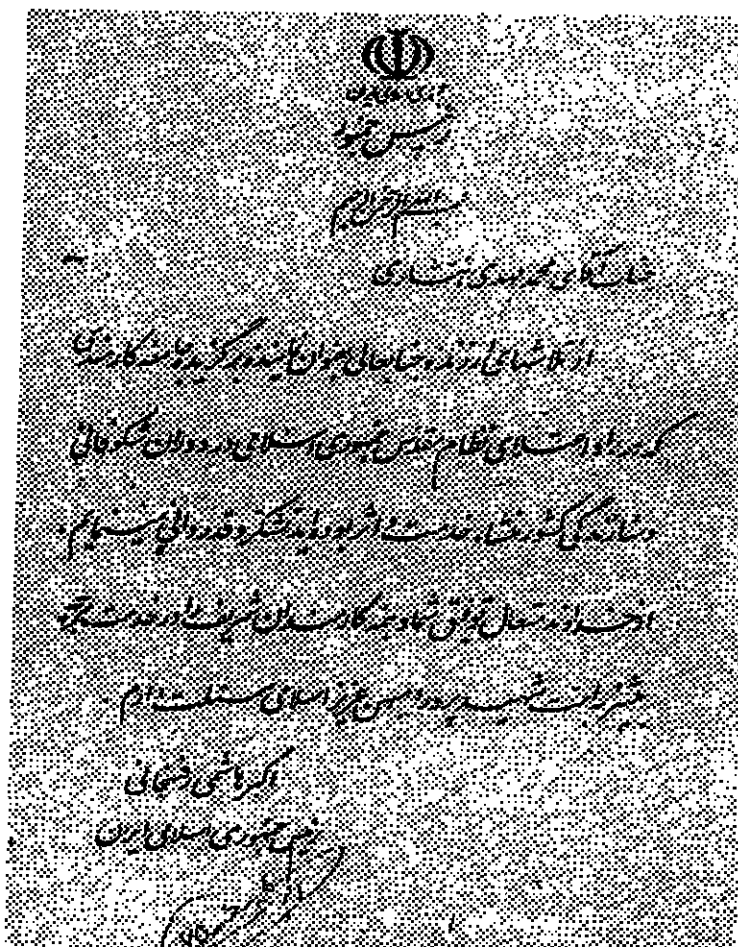
Performance of Isfahan Labor and Social Affairs Department Was Outlined

Rapid changes in the economic, social and political conditions in the majority of developing nations in the last few decades has equally influenced the management of labor organizations like other branches and industries and it has made it necessary to review the role and duties of the management. A review of the role and performance of labor management has shown that contrary to the past, not only the management are responsible to inspect the works, control labor relations, services and employment nowadays, but must also take into consideration the different economic and social impacts of such changes on the labor force and their families.

By correctly collecting information, analysis of information and making necessary conclusions and recommending scientific and constructive methods, the management of labor might remove the present defects, enhance productivity and contribute to the development of the economy.

The following is an interview with Mr. Mohammad Mehdi Enteshari, one of the successful and competent labor executives, but before speaking with Enteshari, the exemplary director general of Department General of Labor and Social Affairs of Isfahan (ILSA), we will cast a glance at Isfahan Province.

Establishment of the Department of Labor of Isfahan Province, the first of kind for equipment and personnel in the country. Isfahan and its surrounding areas for Department of Labor of Isfahan Province, are important development units.



Isfahan Province in a glance:

Isfahan Province, covering an area of approximately 104,650 sq. km, is located in the central parts of Iran. From north, Isfahan Province is bordering the Central Province, Tehran and Semnan provinces. From south to Fars

Province, from east to Yazd and Khorasan provinces and from west with Lorestan, Khuzestan, Chaharmahal and Bakhtiari and Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad provinces.

Due to following factors, Isfahan Province enjoys special privileges compared with other

provinces of the country:

* Existence of Zayandehrud, the lifeline of the historical city of Isfahan, has always been an important industrial expedient for Isfahan's industry and is still a valuable addition for boosting small and large industries in that city.

* Presence of large natural resources and minerals such as cotton, wool, silk, lime, lead, zinc, copper and silver.

* Due to moderate weather, Isfahan Province has impelled the people to resort to industrial engagements.

* Due to existence of vast territories, many workshops and factories have been easily built in Isfahan Province.

* Existence of ample and relatively cheap skilled and creative manpower.

Generally, the industries in Isfahan can be divided into two categories:

a. Handicraft industries:

During the course of many centuries, Isfahan handicraft industries has been known as genuine Islamic and Iranian art and when one hears the name of Isfahan remembers its exquisite miniatures, carpets, metal engravings and diaphoretic tiles.

b. Machine industries:

Existence of the giant Isfahan Iron Works and Mobarakeh Steel Complex along with other strategic industries such as oil, petrochemicals, polyacryl, military, spinning and weaving, chemicals, foodstuff and mineral industries in this Province has given special credit to the region. Since the Province falls in the center of connecting roads of the country, it has led to creation of giant and strategic industries in this part of our homeland.

An interview with Director General of Department General of Labor and Social Affairs of Isfahan Province (ILSA):

In reply to our reporter regarding why Isfahan Province Labor and Social Affairs Department (ILSA) was chosen as a model institute, Enteshari said: "Close cooperation between different departments and the Department General of Labor and Social Affairs of Isfahan Province such as the governor-general, Ayatollah Taheri, the Leader's repre-

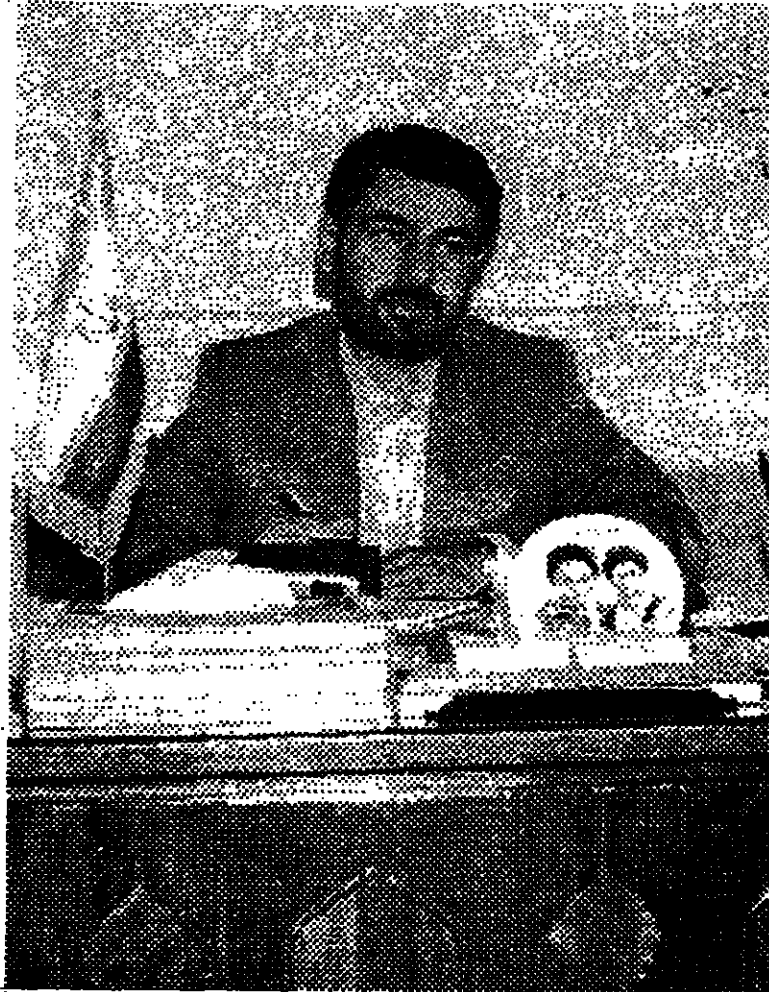
To: Department General of Labor and Social Affairs of Isfahan Province:

During this era of flourishing and advancement of the Islamic Revolution, I was pleased to visit the martyr loving Province of Isfahan and witness your valued efforts towards construction of the nation. Surely fulfillment of the sacred goals of the Islamic Revolution is as the result of the wholehearted support of the people of this Province and the good employees of your department and this badge of honor is presented to you as a token of appreciation of your efforts.

Akbār Hashemi Rafsanjani
President of Islamic Republic of Iran

sentative and Friday prayer leader in Isfahan, the management of production units and Islamic labor councils in the Province and Is-

restaurant and resting house of Isfahan Sports Complex in three stories which will be commissioned in the next few months.



lamic organizations, are important factors that has made ILSA exemplary throughout the nation. The Labor House in Isfahan Province which is working actively on gild and cultural affairs of the labor, has undoubtedly been a good support of ILSA."

Enteshari, who has been chosen as model manager of the nation, thanked the Isfahan Labor House for supporting ILSA and the Labor and Laborer newspaper which is reflecting the activities of ILSA, and enumerated the performance of Department General of Labor and Social Affairs of Isfahan Province as follows in a dialogue with our reporter:

Q. What development actions have been taken by ILSA in Isfahan Province so far?

A. The developments measures can be divided into administrative, cultural/sports and educational/employment as follows:

1. Administrative developments:

a. Establishment of the department of labor of Zarinshahr at a total cost of 450m rials.

b. Establishment of department of labor building at Falavarjan at a cost of 150m rials.

c. Completion of site preparation and wall building and fencing of the department general of labor at a cost of 170m rials.

d. Purchase of land for employment and education in Ghadir Garden, Isfahan at a cost of 40m rials.

h. Providing land for the department of labor at Kashan, Mobarakeh and Naen and preparation of executive drawings for department of labor of Kashan and Naen.

2. Cultural/Sports:

a. Construction of a hall and

b. Construction of Qods Sports Complex at an area of 64,000 sq. m and completion of its swimming pool, preparation of football and track and field ground and construction of multipurpose hall in an area of 1,440 sq. m.

c. Rebuilding the Kashan Sports Complex at a cost of 30m rials at an area of 7,400 sq. m. This is one of the largest labor sport complexes in Isfahan Province.

d. Construction of a sports complex at Mourchekhort at an area of 40,000 sq. m. So far 250m rials has been spent for that complex.

e. Construction of Golpayegan Sports Complex in an area of 40,000 sq. m. The walls have been erected, the land has been leveled and phase two of the project is underway.

f. Fereydan Sports Complex in an area of 36,000 sq. m, Mobarakeh Sports Complex in an area of 40,000 sq. m, and Najafabad Sports Complex in an area of 40,000 sq. are under construction.

All the needed lands for the above sports complexes have been delivered to the Ministry of Labor gratis.

3. Education/employment:

Construction of Golpayegan Educational/Employment Center, Goged Educational Center for carpentry, Shahreza educational center for sewing, Dehnou Educa-

tional Center, Zeinabiyeh Educational Center, Aran and Bigdel Educational centers, Natanz Education Center and Naen Education Center.

Q. What welfare measures have been taken for the employees of ILSA?

A. The following are steps taken in that direction:

1. Construction of a dental clinic, with necessary equipment where two dentists are working.

2. Inviting specialist physicians to check up and treat patients free of charge.

3. Signing contract with a well equipped laboratory for the employees and families of ILSA.

4. Signing contract for radiology and sonography service.

5. Choosing and encouraging model employees once in four months and giving prizes to them and continually assessing their performance.

6. Delivery of basic commodities and necessities such as rice and oil to the employees gratis.

7. Encouraging outstanding students and presenting gifts to 130 such students in a year.

8. Arranging Quran recitals during the Ramadan season for a week for the employees.

9. Dispatching the families of ILSA personnel to pilgrimage tours at Mashhad.

10. Establishing free classes for the children of the employees in summers and providing sports, cultural and recreational facilities to them.

11. Establishing refresher courses for enhancement of the knowledge of administrative staff.

Q. Have you done anything to equip your offices?

A. We have mechanized the ILSA departments; installed a full computer for employment as a network in the whole Province; installed a complete computer system and network in ILSA; purchased four Peykans for the transportation department of ILSA and have rebuilt the resting house consisting of 3 apartments for employees dispatched from other towns to Isfahan and paid the rent of employee rented houses.

Close cooperation between different departments with the Department General of Labor and Social Affairs of Isfahan Province such as the governor-general, Ayatollah Taheri, the representative of the Leader of the Revolution and Friday prayer leader of Isfahan, the management of production units and Islamic labor councils in the Province with ILSA are important factors that has made ILSA exemplary throughout the nation.

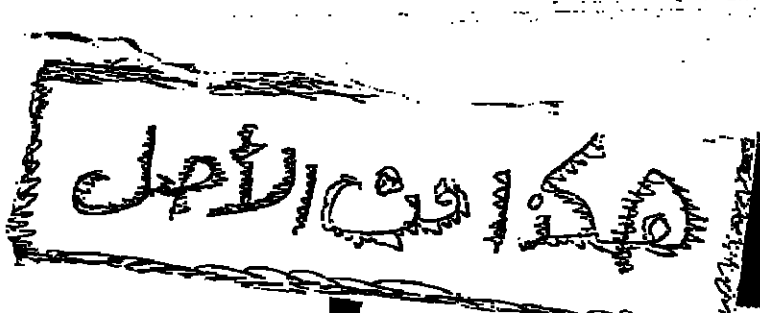
Q. What action has been taken to ease tensions in industrial working environment and enhance productivity of employees?

A. The following are highlights of such activities:

1. Organizing a meeting of management of production and industrial units in the presence of professors of Isfahan University and Industrial and Azad universities to remove economic/production problems.

2. Organizing different seminars to enhance the theoretical and practical knowledge of the

See Page 9



Bosnia's Vote Marred by Irregularities

SARAJEVO (AFP) - Bosnia's landmark general elections, billed as an almost flawless success by its international organizers, were in fact marred by irregularities and imperfections, Western observers said.

Breaking for the first time the unanimous chorus of praise for the trouble-free vote held Saturday, official election observers and international agencies slammed the elections as defective.

Based on first-hand reports from polling stations and voter interviews on election day, the accounts highlight consistent abuse in mainly Serb-held areas.

In the most blatant example, Serb refugee voters bused into Bosnia needed "certification" that they had voted in order to retain their refugee status.

Besides electoral manipulation, the critics also cited "symbolically provocative" polling stations intended for use by Muslim refugees in Serb-held Bosnia.

One such station, officials from a leading international agency working in Bosnia said, was established next to a destroyed mosque by local Serb election officials.

Two others were housed in school buildings used by the Serbs in the aftermath of the fall of the Srebrenica enclave to torture, kill and detain Muslims. One still bore the bullet marks from these events observers said.

In the initial period following the landmark elections, held as the first step to electing new government machinery for post-war Bosnia, there had been widespread

praise for the vote.

Most significantly, the violence that many had anticipated on election day failed to materialize. One source of friction however was averted when only a tenth of the potential 200,000 Muslim refugees who could have crossed into Serb-held areas to vote actually made the journey.

The official explanation for this is that the cancellation of municipal elections in August dampened enthusiasm to vote.

But the observers said many refugee voters were "frightened, disillusioned, and apathetic" after learning they would not be visiting their homes at the same time.

Security concerns dictated that home visits were banned.

Even those that took the risk to travel into former enemy territory still held by the Serbs were processed at polling stations slowly. Widespread problems with voter registration were also not resolved quickly, or at all.

All who spoke to AFP were tied to the main monitoring body for the elections operating under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which is supervising Bosnia's vote.

Chiefly they pointed to the unprecedented number of Bosnian Serbs bused into Bosnia from refugee centers in neighboring Serb-led Yugoslavia to vote.

In Foca, a town in southeastern Bosnia with a pre-war Muslim majority, the Serbs bused in thousands to "pack the ballot", one observer told AFP. None had any

intention of living in Bosnia, one observer said.

The voters had registered to vote in the towns under a special provision widely abused by the Serbs, keen to pack the vote in strategic towns "ethnically cleansed" of their Muslim and Croat population with Serb refugees living in Yugoslavia.

The abuses led to the cancellation of the municipal elections.

This did not stop thousands of voters arriving en masse in town districts they had no intention of living in the observers said. A Western official, said some 3,200 people had traveled through the

night to a Serb-held town in northern Bosnia.

The group was accompanied by a Serb "minder" who stamped a slip of paper to verify they had voted thus preserving their right to humanitarian aid, a Western election official said.

"It's clear manipulation but the way it's being manipulated is across the board and the common thread is that they were told to vote. It's a direct confirmation of the fraudulent registration process in Yugoslavia," John Fawcett, of the international watchdog, ICG, which is monitoring the peace process in Bosnia told AFP.

China, Tajikistan Sign Cooperation Agreements

BEIJING (AFP) - The presidents of Tajikistan and China, Emomali Rakhmonov and Jiang Zemin, signed a series of bilateral cooperation agreements Monday, including one on judicial cooperation, state television said.

The two leaders held a meeting shortly after Rakhmonov arrived here for a five-day visit, the report said.

Rakhmonov said he wanted to develop Tajik-Chinese exchanges "in the economic, political, technological and cultural areas," according to the report.

In addition to the civil and criminal judicial cooperation agreement, the two leaders also signed accords on environmental protection and academic exchanges, state television said.

China and Tajikistan joined Russia, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan last April in signing a regional security treaty creating an 8,000-kilometer-long (5,000-mile) demilitarized zone along the borders between China and the former Soviet states.

Tajikistan has a 500 kilometer (300 mile) common border with China's Xinjiang region, whose population is mostly Muslim and which includes many ethnic Tajiks.

The region has been the center of an independence movement that gained impetus after the break-up of the Soviet Union produced the neighboring central Asian nations.

Tajikistan's Russian-backed neo-Communist government has been waging a violent battle against Islamic guerrillas since 1992. Tens of thousands of people have died in the conflict.



INDIANOLA, IOWA, UNITED STATES: U.S. President Bill Clinton (R) U.S. Senator Tom Harkin of Iowa (L) Senator Harkin's 19th steak fry in Indianola, Iowa Sept. 15. The event was a campaign fund-raising rally.

(AFP Photo)

Performance of Isfahan Labor and Social Affairs Department Was Outlined

production and industrial management such as seminar on completion of working culture in 1993 and seminars on industrial expansion in 1994 and 1995.

3. Holding bimonthly conferences for the members of Islamic labor councils and preparation of labor law and current regulations.

4. Convening monthly meetings of Islamic associations of factories.

5. Convening monthly meetings on security and safety matters.

6. Convening meetings of productive and payroll committees.

7. Continued operation of Isfahan educational centers which have ranked first in the nation.

Q. What educational/cultural measures have been taken so far?

A. Conducting radio and T.V. interview with the management and senior specialists of ILSA to enhance the knowledge of the workers and management and relay the message of Islamic Revolution; issuing scientific and cultural publications for the laborers; expanding the Talash Guidance School and organizing a committee for female workers to hold continued meetings in order to enhance their level of awareness and remove their gild problems.

Q. How were exemplary laborers were elected and introduced?

A. Each year hundreds of chosen male laborers are examined out of which ten persons are elected and sent to Tehran, and each year at least one or two exemplary workers from Isfahan are

chosen as model workers throughout the nation. Meanwhile, every year we have had female outstanding workers from Isfahan as well.

Q. What important actions have been taken to improve labor relations?

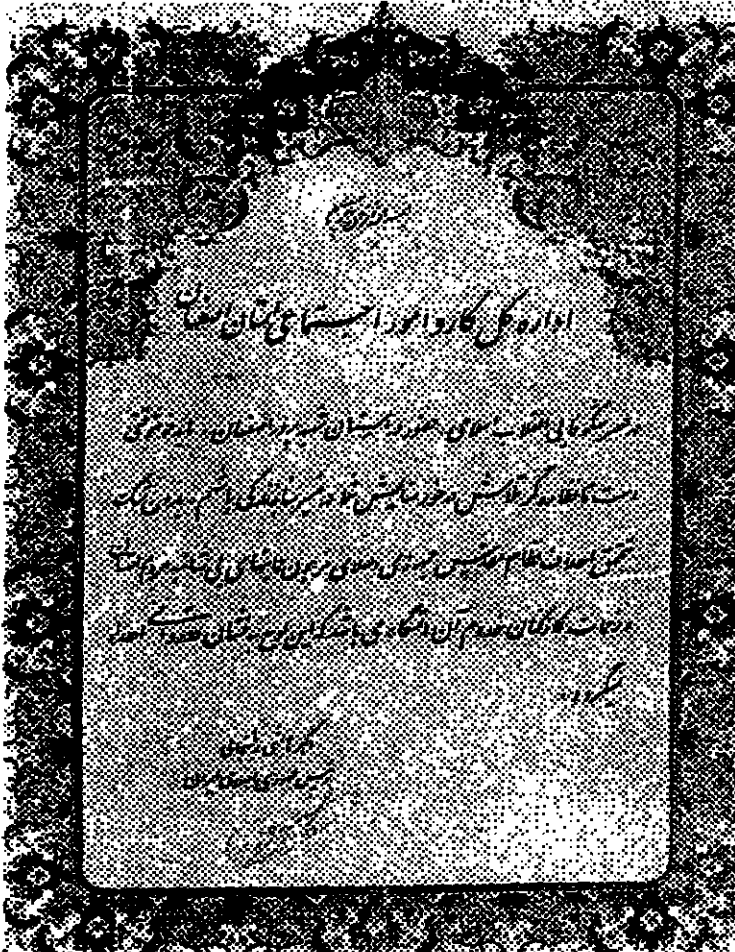
A. More than thirty five board of assessments have been established throughout the Province which are continuously evaluating the performance of the workers and we have five committees which solve labor differences. These inspectors are regularly visiting factories in all the towns and are supervising the implementation of job classification and productivity programs. To make up for shortage of labor, we pay overtime and other fees and we are transmitting our data to Tehran by computer.

Q. How are your inspectors working?

A. Our inspectors are working on full time basis and we make up for shortage of inspectors by dispatching inspectors from Tehran but due to vastness of operation in Isfahan Province we are short of inspectors. According to a timetable the inspectors are working in the afternoons and non-office hours and their performance is evaluated every month. The safety and security committees are wholly controlled by the labor inspectors and they organize training sessions for security committees.

Q. What actions have been taken by your Social Affairs Department?

A. The following measures have been taken by ILA's Social



Affairs Department.

1. From organization point of view no staff is allowed to receive labor ration, but by doing extra overtime work they receive rations.

2. Enforcement of Article 154 of Labor Law by this Department has been quite successful and last year we collected 600m rials from that area.

3. Approximately 120 health centers have been set up and are operating and they are continually inspected.

4. We are continuously controlling and inspecting the children centers.

5. Election of model male and female workers, Islamic councils, and Islamic associations and model managers, etc. is done by the Department of Social Affairs of ILA.

6. Upon establishment of the Literacy Movement, with the assistance of the ILA illiteracy has been wholly eliminated at big factories.

7. Article 49 of Labor Law is

continuously enforced.

8. 33 percent of the labor shares have been paid.

9. The 10-day dawn, Ramadan and religious holidays and mourning are handled by the Social Affairs Department.

Q. What measures have been taken by ILA to promote sports?

A. In Isfahan and Kashan sports centers, sports activities are fully conducted for many athletes which can be summarized as follows:

1. Three swimming pools in Isfahan, Kashan and Qods have been fully reconstructed and put into operation.

2. Three football grounds have been put into operation.

3. Two indoor multipurpose halls have been rebuilt and have gone on stream.

4. Two body building halls, two wrestling halls and a boxing hall are operating from 7 to 10 p.m.

5. More than 85 football teams have played games.

6. This year 40 volleyball teams played games on the provincial championship level.

7. Our basketball, wrestling, boxing, and table tennis teams are continuously active.

8. We are fully active in volleyball, table tennis and body building and during the last two years we have ranked first in the country volleyball and table tennis competitions.

Q. Do you have anything to say on your administrative and personnel affairs?

A. Yes. Due to increase of the duties ILA and staff assignment

we have been facing shortage of personnel but by performing overtime we have been able to discharge our duties although at times we have been forced to work of 12 to 14 hours a day.

Q. How have you managed to run your department so smoothly and what have you done to receive the highly meritorious badge of honor from President Rafsanjani?

A. We are concentrating on the following major items:

1. We are trying to let all of our personnel to participate in the works and hear their opinions when we make decisions.

2. We have consolidated human relations along with working relations and given special value to the human values.

3. We are strengthening working consciousness and our works are progressing on rational standards.

4. We are patient in our decisions and seriously avoid hasty decisions.

5. We identify competent personnel and reward each person according to his/her moral standards and working skill.

6. We have given enough opportunity and warning to those who need to meditate long to do a better work.

7. Twice in the month our department deputies and consultants get together and after lengthy discussions we decide the best method for performance of work and these decisions are then published and are implemented.

8. We are doing our best to relieve the mental, spiritual and financial needs of our personnel.

Bicentennial Anniversary of Franz Schubert



IRAN NEWS ART DESK

The 1997 Schubertiade in Feldkirch, Vorarlberg (June 18 until July 1) is to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Franz Schubert's birth with a particularly varied program consisting exclusively of the works of the great master. Most of his Lieder will be performed, by Olaf Baer, Barbara Bonney, Thomas Hampson, Barbara Hendricks, Marjana Lipovsek, Anne Sofie von Otter, Christoph Pregardien, Peter Schreier and Boje Skovhus, among others. The performers of his great piano works will include Alfred Brendel, Andras Schiff, Till Fellner, Anatol Ugorski and Dina Ugorskaya. Chamber music will be performed by the Alban Berg Quartet, Miklos Perenyi, Andras Schiff, Thomas Zehetmair and Heinrich Schiff, among others. Among the orchestras which will perform Schubert's symphonies is the Camerata Academica Salzburg (with Franz Welser-Möst, for example). Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau is to conduct a performance of the E-flat major Mass, "Young Masters at Achberg Castle" (May 3 until May 11) is another festival devoted to the works of Schubert. The "Landpartie Schwarzenberg" (August 27 until September 7), apart from Schubert, will include music by Brahms, Mendelssohn-Bartholdy and Donizetti. Schubert's string quintet will be performed at this festival by Gidon Kremer, Annette K. Gerard Causse, Clemens von Zens and Boris Pergamentov. A detailed program and tickets can be obtained from the following address: Schubertiade GmbH, Villa Rosenthal, Schweizer Strasse 1, A-6845 Hohenems, P.O.Box: 100. Telephone: 0043/5576/72091. Fax: 0043/5576/75450.

"Art from

Austria, 1896 to

1996" in Bonn

IRAN NEWS ART DESK

The Art and Exhibition Hall of the Federal Republic of Germany in Bonn (designed by the Viennese architect Gustav Peichl) is to hold an exhibition from September 26 until November 15, 1996 entitled "Art from Austria, 1896 to 1996" (with painting, sculpture, graphic art, architecture, objects and posters, totaling about 500 exhibits). All the great names are represented, from Schiele, Klimt and Kokoschka to Pauser, Egger-Lienz and Rainer, Hundertwasser, Nitsch and Messense. The Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF) has compiled portraits of 20 architects, and these will be presented throughout the exhibition. The curators include such authorities as Walter Koschatzky and Peter Baum, supported by Friedrich Achleitner, Otto Breicha, Lorand Hegy and Dieter Rontle.

Chinese War Exhibitions Torpedoed in Japan

TOKYO (AFP) - A Japanese city has cancelled an exhibition on the wartime massacre of Chinese civilians in Nanjing while students have been discouraged from visiting a separate display on Japan's gruesome germ-warfare experiments in China, education officials said.

A spokesman for the Hirakata Municipal Education Board in Osaka prefecture said the decision to cancel the exhibition by a group of New York-based Chinese painters followed right-wing attacks on a similar exhibition in Kobe in May.

"We decided to cancel the exhibition in consideration of the considerable confusion anticipated," the board said in a statement, referring to the mobilization of riot police in Kobe in May. "We apologize for this situation and would like the public to understand our decision."

The six-day exhibition of paintings depicting the rape of Nanjing was scheduled to open at a public gallery in Hirakata on Friday of next week.

More than 100,000 Chinese civilians are estimated to have been slaughtered by the Japanese Imperial Army after it invaded Nanjing in December of 1937.

In a related development, it was learned Friday that an education board near Tokyo discouraged students from visiting a recent exhibition devoted to the Imperial Army's wartime biological experiments on human guinea pigs in China.

A spokesman for the Saitama Prefectural Education Board in Urawa north of Tokyo said the activities of the Japanese army's notorious unit 731, which was based in Harbin in northern China,

might have shocked younger students.

"The board tried to discourage primary and junior high-school students from going to the exhibition because there are no references to unit 731 in their history textbooks," the education board spokesman said. "We also made the decision in consideration of their young age."

Discouraging the students was in exchange for providing financial support for the exhibition, organized by teachers and senior high-school students who are members of a history club at Showa high school in northern Saitama.

The history club has been studying the gruesome activities of the Japanese germ warfare unit since 1994 and some students have visited Harbin as part of their research, officials said. China also invited the history club to take part in a symposium on unit 731 which was held in Harbin last year.

An estimated 5,700 visited the three-day exhibition in Kasukabe which was held between August 2 and 4.

Unit 731 cultivated plague-carrying fleas and was also involved in the mass production of deadly bacteria such as cholera and anthrax. Experiments were carried out on human guinea pigs, mainly

Chinese but also Koreans and Russians.

In exchange for scientific data acquired from the experiments in China, unit 731 commander Lieutenant-General Shiro Ishii and other officers were granted immunity by the United States occupation authorities after World War II.

Some went on to found Green Cross Corp., the country's top producer of plasma derivatives which has been raided by public prosecutors this week on suspicion of deliberately selling HIV-tainted blood products.

Japan denied the existence of unit 731 for decades but references to the group's human experiments have recently crept into Japanese senior high-school books following a series of revelations by those who took part.

In a similar vein, textbook accounts of the rape of Nanjing have become more forthcoming in recent years, notwithstanding the frequent controversial remarks by conservative politicians questioning whether it actually took place.

During the 1980s, China and South Korea vigorously protested against the heavy censorship of school textbooks by the education ministry which often sought to play down Japanese aggression during World War II.

Four Jailed for Picasso Thefts

GENEVA (AFP) - Seven Picasso paintings stolen from a Zurich art gallery landed four men jail sentences of up to five years, judicial sources said Wednesday.

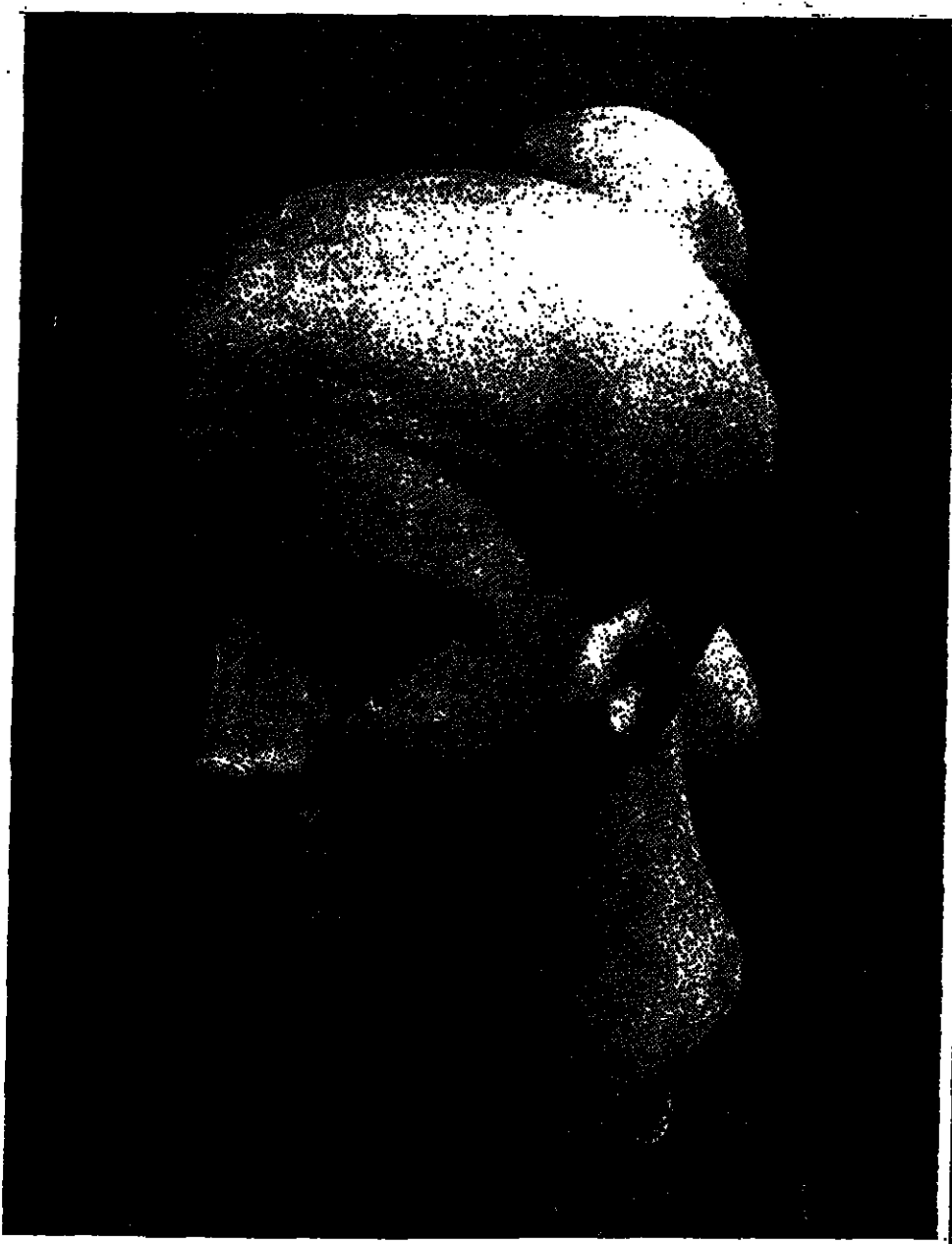
They included the Seated Woman, dating from Picasso's blue period in 1902, and the Christ

of Montmartre, from his pink period in 1904.

The four men were found guilty by a court in Baden late Tuesday of stealing the canvases in October 1994, supposedly for a foreign drug dealer. They have still not been recovered.

Contemporary World Art Elie Nadelman

Goddess, 1920. Carved marble, 19 x 11 x 15 inches



Salander-O'Reilly Galleries, New York

Iranian Movies at International Festivals



'Leili Is with Me'

IRAN NEWS ART DESK

Three Iranian movies - 'Sack of Rice' directed by Mohammad Ali Talebi, 'Leili Is with Me' by Kamal Tabrizi and 'The Father' by Majid Majidi - are to be screened at Fukuoka International Film Festival in Japan.

According to an announcement by the Farabi Cinema Foundation, the Fukuoka International Film Festival, which opened on Friday September 13 and will run through Monday September 23, is a non-

competitive event.

Also, according to the announcement by the Farabi Cinema Foundation, Jafar Panahi's debut film, 'The White Balloon' which has been presented and awarded at numerous international film festivals and public screens, together with Alireza Raisian's 'The Journey' and Yasmin Malek Nasr's 'The Common Plight' will be screened at the 1st Pusan International Film Festival in South Korea which runs from September 13 - 22.

'Spouse', 'The Survivor' at Pyongyang Festival

IRAN NEWS ART DESK

The International Pyongyang Film Festival will open at the North Korean capital on Monday September 16. The Iranian cinema is represented at the Pyongyang Festival by two films:

'The Spouse' directed by Mehdi Fakhimzade and 'The Survivor'

by Seifollah Dad. Iranian films had also participated at the previous editions of the Pyongyang Festival and several Iranian entries - 'The Grandfather' and 'The Little Bird of Happiness' had won prizes. The current festival at the North Korean capital runs through September 24.

Ghana University to Establish Persian Language Chair

IRAN NEWS ART DESK

Ghana's Minister of Education Harry Sawyer told Iran's Ambassador to Accra Mohammad Faraji Saturday that his government wished to establish a Persian language department at Legon University in Accra. He said Iran and Ghana could collaborate in educational, scientific and technological areas, an IRNA report said.

He also added that the government of Ghana is interested in dispatching number of Ghanaian scholars to Tehran on the occasion of the 10th Kharazmi International Festival.

The Iranian official welcomed the offer of the Ghanaian minister and said Iran would undertake all efforts to further expand relations between the two countries in cultural, educational and scientific areas.

China Bans TV Series About Kuomintang Intelligence Head

HONG KONG (AFP) - Chinese authorities have banned the filming and distribution of a television series depicting the life of a former intelligence head of the nationalist Kuomintang, reports said Thursday.

The radio, film and television ministry has banned filming of the series based on the life of the late Shen Zui, a former top nationalist intelligence official during China's Civil War, the Hong Kong branch of China News Service said.

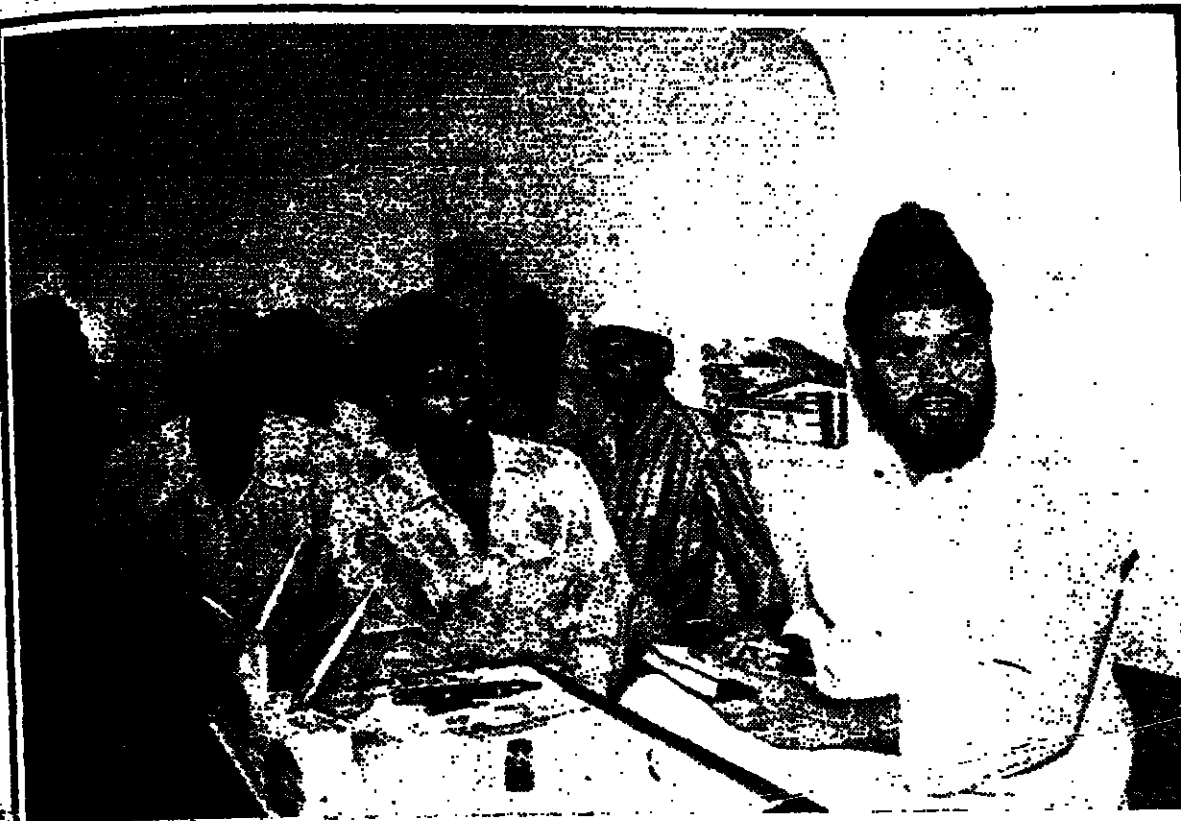
Shen defected to the communists before the nationalist troops were driven off the mainland to Taiwan in 1949, and was later made a member an advisory body to the government, the Chinese

People's Political Consultative Conference.

The ban also included the distribution and public showing of the film.

The series was written by Shen's daughter Shen Meijuan, who offered it to producers for 400,000 yuan (\$48,200). The report did not say whether there were takers for the script.

The report did not explain why the series on Shen's life was banned, but the agency quoted a source as saying there was a trend on the Chinese mainland to produce stories about former Kuomintang officials that distorted historical facts to attract audiences.



NEW DELHI, INDIA: Moulvi Mohammed Mouzzam Ahmed (R) seats at his office at the 17th-century Fatehpuri Mosque in New Delhi Sept. 14 with a group of Hindu and Muslim patients. Ahmed, a cleric, says the mosque attracts hundreds of Hindus because of its curative power.

(AFP Photo)

Fatal Germs Being Surpassed by Other Causes of Death

WASHINGTON (AP) - Heart disease, depression and car crashes will overtake infectious diseases to become the world's leading causes of death and disability by 2020, the World Health Organization WHO said.

It will mark the first time non-infectious diseases kill more people than germs, a sudden rise propelled in part by tobacco. The U.N. agency said in a new study that tobacco-caused disease will be killing 8.4 million people annually within 25 years.

"Noncommunicable diseases will be the coming epidemic," said Dr. Christopher Murray of Harvard University, a co-author of the study.

Already, 30 countries notified of the findings by WHO are considering how to revise public health programs, now focused almost solely on infections, in hopes of finding "some way out of this mess," Murray said.

Infectious diseases like pneumo-

nia and diarrhea are the world's leading causes of death and disability today and will remain potent threats in 2020. AIDS alone could kill 1 million to 1.7 million people a year by then, Murray said.

But just as heart disease became the top killer of rich nations decades ago, it is rapidly stalking developing countries. By 2020, Murray concluded, it will have become the world's No. 1 health threat.

Depression's rise from the No. 4 world health threat in 1990 to second in 2020 will be due mostly to an aging population, Murray said: the proportion of the population over 45 will rise 200 percent.

And the number of deaths due to car crashes will increase as poor nations speed road development and the percentage within the population of young adults, the age group most often killed on the highways, grows larger, he said. In all, noninfectious disease will account for seven of every 10 deaths in poor countries by 2020, up from fewer than half today. Only in sub-Saharan Africa will germs still kill more people than noninfectious disease.

WHO commissioned the study as a road map for governments to better spend scarce health resources, said co-author Dean Jamison, a health economist at the University of California, Los Angeles. He came up with lists of

"best buys" for science in low- and middle-income countries that house four-fifths of the world's population but simply can't afford the technology that richer countries already use against noninfectious disease.

For example, money now being spent to find a leprosy vaccine might be better directed to a malaria vaccine, since leprosy is rare while malaria causes almost 10 percent of deaths and disease in sub-Saharan Africa.

Switzerland will host a world meeting next year to see how well countries are prioritizing medical research funds.

The report has good news: life expectancy for girls born in every region of the world will rise by 2020 - up eight years to age 88 in rich nations.

In fact, the only group who won't live longer are men in Eastern Europe, whose 1990 life expectancy of 65 already has plummeted 10 years and is expected to creep back up very slowly, Murray said.

One health threat the WHO report uncovered - injuries from accidents, murder or suicide that kill 5 million people a year - has no easy medical answer.

Take Colombia, where a third of the health burden is from injuries, most caused by violence. In China, injuries constitute 17 percent of the health burden, including a staggering 180,000 women a year who kill themselves in what scientists call Asia's "suicide belt."

One Graduate in Three Fails to Find Work in Italy

ROME (AFP) - One graduate in three in Italy fails to find a job within three years of completing a degree, according to figures published earlier by the National Statistics Institute ISTAT.

Only 66.8 percent of students surveyed had found work three years after graduating, of which 14.6 percent had already been in employment before taking their degree and were continuing in the same job.

The remaining 33.2 percent were not engaged in any paid activity.

By sector, agriculture had the highest rate of take-up with 72.6 percent of graduates finding jobs, against 71.9 percent in engineering and 71.3 percent for medicine. Worse off were graduates in law (43.5 percent) and the arts (47.8 percent), with biology trailing in last at only 15.5 percent.

Southern Italy has the highest number of unemployed graduates at 38.7 percent, with women markedly worse off, at 46.8 percent looking for work.

The survey was carried out in a selective sample of 13,511 students out of a total of 88,000 who passed their degrees in 1992.

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WOMEN in Society



Female Education Key to Health and Wealth



A Kurdish female Peshmerga, packing a revolver, listens to PUK Leader Jalal Talebani near Suleymaniah in N. Iraq, Sept. 13. Photo by Abdi

HONG KONG (AFP) - Developing countries: educate your girls, or you will never emerge from poor health and poverty, says Hong Kong-based physician Judith Mackay, author of the first-ever Atlas on Global Health.

Mackay calls female literacy "the absolute fundamental essence of health." One in three women worldwide are illiterate compared to one in five men.

"Unless you educate women, babies die," she says. "When babies die, women keep on having more and more babies and the whole thing just spirals out of control."

Literate women are more likely

to accept family planning, reducing family size within a decade. Their children, besides being more likely to survive childhood, are also more likely to be better nourished and better educated.

"The State of Health Atlas," contains 35 world maps showing 20,000 health-related statistics, on such topics as the costs of war, the use of holistic medicine, and the worldwide spread of the 1989 Beijing flu virus.

Four decades ago, infant mortality and other health indicators were almost identical in Asia, Africa and the Indian subcontinent, says Mackay.

Although all three regions have

since improved, Asia has made the most dramatic strides.

The commitment by Communist governments in China and

other Asian countries to educate both boys and girls is probably responsible for the improvement of the continent's health, she says.

In contrast, India spends a lot of money educating a mainly male elite. "You can send one Indian man to university for the cost of providing primary education for 100 Indian girls," says Mackay.

The need to educate women will only become more pressing as world population soars by an esti-

mated three billion in the next 30 years from the current five million. Ninety-five percent of the increase will be in poor countries.

Most of Mackay's data comes from U.N. agencies, but when she first contacted UNICEF, the World Health Organization and the World Bank, they all said her project was impossible because of lack of statistics.

The atlas has since been lauded by leading epidemiologists and Mackay has already been asked to do a second edition, in which she plans to add maps on medical ethics, teenage health and asthma.

Women's Group Calls for Woman U.N. Secretary General

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) - An international women's rights group has launched a campaign for a woman to succeed U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

In a call mobilizing its membership of more than 2,000 individuals and groups in 75 countries, equality now at the weekend put up the names of six prominent women the organization considered worthy of succeeding the 73-year old Egyptian when his current term expires in December.

The move comes while Bou-

tros-Ghali is seeking re-election himself, declaring that he will run despite a U.S. veto threat aimed at preventing him from running for a second five-year term.

Equality now called on its membership to lobby the 15 Security Council members and government representatives on behalf of its six candidates.

They are Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, South African parliamentary Speaker Frene Ginwala, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata of Japan, interna-

See Page 13

Women and Work

PART V

Eastern Europe, Eastern Asia and Central Asia reported smaller increases or slight declines, but they already have had higher rates than any other region. Among the changes the situation in sub-Saharan Africa stands out, where women's average reported labor force participation dropped from a high rate of 57 percent in 1970 to 53 percent in 1990.

Many factors affect advances of women in the labor force. In countries where many men migrate, more opportunities for education and employment may become available to women. In addition, more women-headed households increase the need for women to find employment to support their families. And fertility declines mean that women devote fewer years to child-bearing and child care that would otherwise conflict with labor force participation.

Growing economies expand the labor market and increase women's economic activity — whereas contractions have the opposite effect. In many developing regions and Eastern Europe, economic adjustment programs and contractions in public spending have led overall to declines in employment opportunities — in some cases forcing women out of the labor force, as in sub-Saharan Africa.

Economic participation rates in rural and urban areas

Economic activity rates are higher in rural than in urban areas for women in sub-Saharan Africa and most of Asia — and for men in all of the developing regions except Oceania (chart 5.6). In the

developed regions women's rates are lower in rural than in urban areas while men's rates show no differences. The gap between rural and urban areas is generally wider in the developing regions and is wider for women than for men.

Variations on these general observations show several patterns. In southern and western Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, rural rates are much higher than urban rates for women. In sub-Saharan Africa women's activity rates are 50 percent in rural areas and 35 percent in urban areas. In southern and western Asia rates are 27 and 15 percent in rural and urban areas respectively. In Latin America and the Caribbean, cities offer better opportunities than rural areas. In northern Africa rates are 19 percent and 12 percent respectively.

These patterns are linked to such factors as control over rural land resources, cultural differences and employment opportunities in rural and urban areas and longer duration of schooling for rural boys than girls. However, problems of measuring women's participation in subsistence agriculture and the informal sector tend to bias women's rural economic activity rates downwards.

The World's Women 1995 UNITED NATIONS

BORANI KARAFS
Celery Hors d'oeuvre
Chop the thin stem of the celery, put them into the yogurt and add enough salt.
Makes 6-7 Servings

First Woman Delegate to Arab League Pledges to Work for Arab Unity

CAIRO, EGYPT (AFP) - The first woman delegate to the Arab League, Libyan Ambassador Salma Ahmed Rashed, pledged to help forge Arab unity as she took up her new job in the all-male universe of the pan-Arab Organization.

"My priorities will be to promote the Libyan project to create a union of Arab states and the Palestinian cause," Rashed said Friday after presenting her letter of credentials to Arab League Secretary General Esmat Abdel Meguid.

Never before had a woman taken a seat on the pan-Arab Organization since its creation in 1945 until Libya appointed Rashed to the post of ambassador to the 22-member league.

Rashed, who has served in a number of Libyan government posts, replaced Ibrahim al-Bashari, who has been named undersecretary of state for foreign affairs.

At the Arab Summit which was held in Cairo in June, Libyan Leader Moamer Qaddafi called for the creation of a union of Arab states.

His proposal figured on a the 46-point agenda of an ordinary ministerial conference of Arab League foreign ministers which

started its work Saturday here. Rashed was to attend the meeting.

Calm and smiling, Rashed said she would "definitively" submit to the league "several ideas concerning issue of interest to Arab women."

Appearing before reporters here wearing pants and a green T-shirt, she considered her appointment "normal" and due to her "competence," adding that she was 28.

"Women constitute half of society," she said, stressing that she expected to hire female colleagues to help her in her new job.

Women in fact hold a special place in the heart of the Libyan leader, whose own personal guard consists of many women.

Qaddafi has repeatedly expressed his desire to give Libyan women a greater role in society and in his famous "Green Book" said that by appointing women to key positions he wanted to show the world his discontent with Arab governments that are "incapable of defending their nation."

Rashed graduated from Al-Fateh University in Tripoli and holds a degree in political science.

She held several official posts in Libya, at the Foreign Affairs Ministry and at parliament, but it was the first time she was given an ambassadorial title.



CAIRO, EGYPT: The new Libyan Ambassador to the Arab League in Cairo, 28-year-old Salma Ahmed Rashed (L), enters the Arab League for the first time Sept. 13, accompanied by Libyan Foreign Unity Minister Gomaa al-Fazani (R). Salma is considered the first woman ambassador at the Arab League since its opening in 1945. (AFP Photo)

Handwritten text in Arabic script: "الجمهورية العربية السورية"